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# THE TIMES

No. 65,159

MONDAY JANUARY 9 1995

Third man flees as two killers are held six miles from Parkhurst

## Armed police recapture two escapers

By HELEN JOHNSTONE AND RICHARD FORD

TWO of the three prisoners who escaped from Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight were recaptured by armed police last night. Keith Rose, 44, and Andrew Rodger, 44, were cornered less than a mile from the Cowes ferry terminal.

The third man, Matthew Williams, 25, escaped and was being chased by police who swamped the area. The men are believed to have been sighted about two miles from East Cowes.

After a struggle the two murderers, Keith Rose and Andrew Rodger, were detained by police six miles from Parkhurst. They were arrested in open country as they were making their way along a bus lane that adjoins the main Newport to East Cowes road. The dishevelled men were taken to Newport police station.

Williams, the arsonist and poisoner who was thought to be the most dangerous of the three, was still on the run at 8pm. A helicopter crew was last night leading the search over East Cowes.

Kelly Barker came face to face with police as they set up roadblocks. The 19-year-old barmaid from the Folly Inn pub at Whippingham said: "It was terrifying. I was driving into work when dozens of police appeared from nowhere. The police jumped out of the vans and started searching the woods and fields. There are lots of boats kept down there, and in the winter it would be the perfect place to hide."



Keith Rose: hit-list of 15 discovered



Andrew Rodger: judo expert and killer

Another eyewitness said: "We were on the 7.30pm ferry from East Cowes when it happened. The ferry was just leaving and there were about 35 police officers on board who were going home at the end of the day. "All of a sudden they all piled out and started to run. The ferry doors were shut and the rest of us were locked in

for our own security." Within minutes of news of the men's recapture, the prison governors telephoned Richard Gully, chairman of the board of visitors, and told him to come to the jail quickly. Mr Gully said last night: "I have just been called to the jail. No one would tell me what it was about but I guessed there had been a development."

He said it was unlikely that the men would be returned to Parkhurst immediately. "I think the Prison Service will want to get them off the island as quickly as possible. They will ship them elsewhere."

The men escaped on Tuesday evening and are believed to have used a replica pass key which enabled them to open two doors, including one to the vocational training unit.

Inside the unit the men assembled the parts of an ingenious ladder they had made. They then ran to the sports field, crossed tennis courts and cut their way through an internal fence. At the prison wall they attached a hose pipe to the top of the ladder to help them over the mushroom-shaped steel capping on top of the wall and slid down the other side to freedom.

Rose was jailed for life in 1991 for killing a woman in a bungled kidnapping. He had compiled a hit list of 15 people which police discovered on a computer in his cell. They included his wife Wendy, Mr Justice Ognall, his trial judge, and police had been monitoring the movements of those



Police searching isolated buildings on the Isle of Wight before last night's arrest

on the list, providing round-the-clock protection by armed officers and panic buttons for their homes.

Williams was serving five life sentences for conspiring to launch a bombing and arson campaign in his home town of Oxted in Merseyside. Rodger, a judo expert, bar-

tered a nightwatchman to death with a crowbar during a burglary at Ilford, east London.

Earlier yesterday it was disclosed that security at Parkhurst is to be upgraded, nearly 13 years after it was first requested, with the installation of an alarm system

which could have stopped the escape.

An announcement that the touch-sensitive "geophone" electronic alarm, costing less than £1 million, will be introduced at the prison on the Isle of Wight is expected soon.

Letters, page 17

## Moscow claims Grozny palace surrounded by Russian troops

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN troops have blockaded the palace of President Dudayev, the Chechen leader, in the centre of Grozny, the separatist region's capital, the Government said here.

Tass quoted an official statement saying that Russian troops had approached the building "from two sides and blockaded it completely; they are now between 70 and 200 yards from it".

Reports from Grozny, meanwhile, suggested that the resolve of the defenders, who last week beat back a Russian armoured blitz, was cracking after three days of constant bombardment by rockets, mortars and warplanes. The Russians apparently devised a new tactic to defeat the city's defenders. While ground forces inched forward on two fronts, artillery and aircraft kept up a ferocious barrage against the city centre, targeting key roads and the bridges across the Sunzha River.

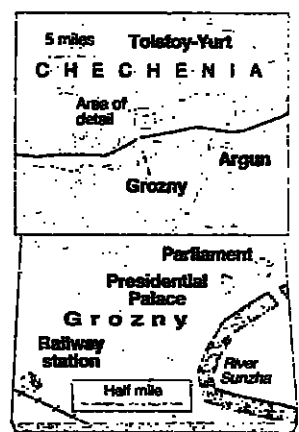
The use of Russian air power against residential areas contravenes for the second time in less than a week a direct order from President Yeltsin. But it was not clear if the military was disobeying his orders or if the Kremlin had decided to say one thing in public while doing the opposite on the frontlines.

In Moscow, the government press service claimed that the Russian offensive had prompted General Dudayev to flee Grozny with his bodyguards on Friday night. They were said to be in the village of Galanchezh. The service also said that Sultan Gelishkhanov, the Chechen security chief, had fled to the town of Gudermes.

Even if the Russians are poised finally to crush the last elements of resistance in central Grozny, as they were ordered to do by Mr Yeltsin and his security advisers on

Friday, it is unlikely that the Kremlin's unpopular four-week campaign will be over. Already the Chechens are organising resistance operations in the countryside, where Russian supply routes are vulnerable to guerrilla attack. Yesterday, for instance, reports from an area 18 miles southwest of Grozny said that a unit of Russian paratroops had been captured by the Chechens.

In Moscow today, the Interior Ministry is planning a memorial service for Major-General Viktor Vorobyov, the commander of a special task force ordered to wipe out the Chechen defences. He was



killed in a mortar attack in Grozny on Saturday.

The Russian authorities are also growing increasingly concerned about the rising cost of the military operation, which could threaten to derail the country's economic reform programme this year. Nikolai Gonchar, a budget committee member of the Federation Council, Russia's upper house of parliament, said that the cost of repairs to the Chechen economy was at least 15,000 billion roubles (£25 billion).

Allies edge away, page 9

## Green campaigner is found dead

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

ANDREW LEES, the British environmentalist who vanished in the Madagascar rain forests a week ago, has been found dead by a tracker dog. Doctors said he had suffered a heart attack.

His body was discovered on Saturday night close to the spot where he disappeared after asking his driver to wait for him to take some film footage in the Tetritry Forest.

Friends of the Earth said last night it had learned of the discovery from Peter Strain, the British Ambassador in Madagascar. Dr Jonathan Kaplan, a friend of Mr Lees, 46, campaign director of Friends of the Earth, indicated that "Andrew had died quickly

from natural causes". There had been speculation that local tribespeople might have mistaken Mr Lees for a mining surveyor. Mr Lees was gathering information on threats to the rain forest and its endangered wildlife. A subsidiary of RTZ, the international mining company, had plans to develop the area for uranium ore. There were fears that sacred burial sites could be disturbed.

Charles Secret, director of Friends of the Earth, said: "Andrew's death is a tremendous loss to us all. I knew him for over 15 years as a close friend and an inspiring colleague." He said his "heart went out" to Dr Chris Orengo, Mr Lees' fiancée, who had flown to the area.

The body was found after a search by 150 police, villagers and conservationists with the Worldwide Fund for Nature working in the area. A post-mortem examination is to be carried out before the body is flown to Britain.

Friends of the Earth still described Mr Lees' visit as a holiday. But it is known he was seeking information.

## Prime Minister is ready to use veto at European Union summit

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR launched a new attempt yesterday to reduce Conservative tensions over Europe by pledging to block any big constitutional changes at next year's conference on its future and by ruling out British participation in early moves to create a single currency.

In remarks that appeared designed to placate the Eurosceptic wing of his party, he made plain that any efforts at the inter-governmental conference to weaken the veto of individual member states on key European Union issues, to increase the powers of the European Parliament, to advance towards a single currency, or to extend the use of qualified majority voting would be opposed.

He also sought to please the pro-Europeans by emphasising that a referendum was unlikely because it would be unnecessary, although if something did "wrangle through" the conference against his wishes, he would be ready to consider one.

He was accused by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor,

of "hoisting the white flag of surrender to the Euro-rebels".

The Prime Minister, by making plain that he did not envisage anything emerging from the conference that would justify a referendum and by adding that he would block anything of constitutional significance that was raised, was also trying to satisfy Euro-enthusiasts who feared that he was moving too swiftly towards a referendum. In what seemed to be a classic balancing act, Mr Major even suggested that offering a referendum now would give the impression of readiness to accept constitutional changes in next year's negotiations.

Those remarks were designed both as a pre-emptive strike against any Labour pledge of a referendum and to assuage the concerns of Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine that he was about to give way to Euro-sceptic demands for a plebiscite. Mr Major again kept open the prospect of a referendum on a single currency, but he flatly ruled out Britain joining one next

year or in 1997. He said that if a European hard core tried to proceed with a single currency next year or in 1997, "I would not advise the British Parliament to follow them. I do not believe it would be remotely appropriate at that stage."

He said: "The high tide of federalism is on the decline. I have no intention of adding to it in the 1996 (EC) inter-governmental conference, so I will not accept constitutional change that impacts on the British Parliament."

The fresh refinement of the Prime Minister's stance on referendums and the conference was accompanied by a more conciliatory tone towards the nine Conservative Euro-rebels, who, he said, he wanted to return to the party whip, and the opening of an offensive against Tony Blair and the Labour Party. He accused them of indulging in "grievance politics", homing in on unpopular issues, blaming the Government and trying to divert attention from their own policies.

With the Commons returning tomorrow after the Christ-

mas recess, Mr Major used an interview on *Frost on Sunday* on BBC1 to try to defuse the European issue and strengthen his own position at the start of what could be another bruising year. The Prime Minister said that "of course" he would lead his party into the next election, which he said was at least two years away, and that he was "wholly unperturbed" by Mr Blair's huge poll lead.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, said the interview showed a "Prime Minister at bay" and on the run from his Euro-rebels.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, said: "The Prime Minister has condemned Britain to carping from the sidelines while the rest of Europe takes centre-stage. The tragedy for Britain is that government policy on Europe is not driven by the interests of a country of almost

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## YOUNG OR OLD THE PAIN'S THE SAME



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# Brown rules out union deals as price of reforming Clause 4

By PHILIP WEBSTER  
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Labour leadership last night ruled out deals with trade unions to help Tony Blair in his attempt to rewrite Clause 4 of the party constitution.

Amid signs that opposition to Mr Blair's plan among party activists and the unions is greater than expected, Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, said there

would be no trade-offs. However, it became clear yesterday that Mr Blair is preparing to take a much bigger role in the effort to secure backing across the Labour movement for his proposal to redraft its aims and values.

He is not prepared to meet any demands from the unions such as commitments to renationalise the water industry or to take back any part of British Rail sold off during the present Parliament as the price

of their support at the special conference on April 29. But the leadership accepts that it will have to do more to guarantee victory.

Mr Blair will raise the stakes today by asserting that the modernisation of Labour's constitution is central to his crusade for national renewal. At a press conference with John Prescott to launch Labour's agenda for 1995, he will also say that the party's three main parliamentary objec-

tives for the year are to halt rail privatisation, force a U-turn on the plan to restrict mortgage help to the unemployed and to tackle executive pay.

A newsletter has already been sent out to local parties by the New Clause 4 Campaign, an organisation headed by MPs, peers and senior officials. The new Clause 4 is likely to voice Labour's belief in a regulated private sector but with public ownership where justified

on grounds of "efficiency and equity".

Mr Brown said yesterday: "There will be no trade-offs and no trading. That has been made absolutely clear under all circumstances during the course of this debate." He did not "concede the possibility we will lose". People wanted a modern statement of values because conditions today were different from 70 years ago. They were looking for "a commit-

ment to fairness and social justice and they are looking for public services owned or controlled and properly accountable to the community", Mr Brown said.

"These are things that can be included in a new Clause 4 that I think will commend itself not only to the unions and constituency party members of the Labour Party but to people throughout the country. I do not concede for a moment that we are going to lose.

There is support within the party for change.

Some union figures are reported to be pressing for pledges to reverse rail or water privatisation or to end compulsory competitive tendering in council services. But most of the suggestions appear to be emanating from leftwingers on union executives. Mr Blair has taken care to involve key union leaders in his efforts to redraft the clause.

## Major woos Euro-rebels as crucial vote looms

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR yesterday softened his attitude to the Tory MPs ejected from the parliamentary party over Europe, declaring that they were "very blue" Conservatives and he wanted them back.

A poll yesterday suggested that the rebels enjoyed strong support in their constituencies. But the Prime Minister made plain that their return—which he spoke about in terms of weeks rather than months, as he has done before—would depend on them regularly supporting the Government.

A key vote on Wednesday on the make-up of Commons standing committees will be a crucial test for the eight MPs who were deprived of the Tory whip, and the ninth who voluntarily resigned it, over the legislation increasing Britain's contribution to the European Union. The rebels are keeping quiet about their in-

tentions but private warnings are being issued that a failure to back the Government would be the last straw and the whip would never be offered back.

The Commons will decide whether, because the Government is now technically in a minority, it should also lose its majority on the standing committees that consider Government Bills in detail, usually for a period of several weeks. If the Government lost, its ability to get its legislation through the Commons would be severely jeopardised.

Interviewed on BBC's *First on Sunday*, Mr Major made a direct appeal to the deeply held convictions of the rebels. "Many people would say they are very blue Conservatives indeed... they care about Conservative principles," he said. "On one issue they share fears about the future development of Europe and they are not yet reassured by the Government's stance. Elsewhere across the range of Government activities they support the Government, they are very Conservative, they fight very hard for the Conservative cause."

His comments came after a MORI poll for *The Mail* on Sunday showed that 60 per cent of previous Tory voters in the MPs' seats said the decision to oppose ministers on the vote on raising payments to Brussels was right—only 29 per cent disagreed. Some 52 per cent said the outcasts should be brought back into the parliamentary party immediately.

The survey also suggested that the Tory vote would split if Conservative Central Office put up official candidates to oppose the rebels at the next election. The poll, carried out among 987 people on Thursday and Friday, showed that 36 per cent would back the sitting MP, 22 per cent the official Tory, 11 per cent Labour, 4 per cent Liberal with 1 per cent backing another party, 4 per cent declining to vote and 23 per cent undecided.

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## Why Are You A Bore?

A FAMOUS author and educationalist reveals that there is a simple technique of everyday conversation and writing which can pay you real dividends in both social and professional advancement. It works like magic to give you added poise, self-confidence, and greater popularity.

According to this educationalist, many people do not realise how much they could influence others simply by what they say and how they say it. Those who realise this radiate enthusiasm, hold the attention of their listeners with bright, sparkling conversation that attracts friends and opportunities wherever they go. Whether in business, at social functions, or even in casual conversation with new acquaintances, there are ways in which you can make a good impression every time you talk.

Full details of this interesting home-study method for developing skill in everyday conversation and writing have been printed in a fascinating booklet, "Adventures in Speaking and Writing", sent free on request. No obligation. No need even to stamp your envelope. Simply write to: Effective Speaking Programme, (Dept. TSS85), FREEPOST 246, London WC1A 1BR.

## £17m jackpot forecast

Camelot, the National Lottery organiser, is predicting a rush for tickets this week with Saturday's unclaimed £10 million jackpot being rolled over to next weekend's draw. The jackpot is likely to be £17 million, close to the £17.8 million collected by a Lancashire man last month. Sales last week totalled £57.5 million, up 7.9 per cent on the previous week and the second highest. Seven people who matched five numbers and the bonus ball in Saturday's draw are expected to receive £368,000 each. The total raised for charity and other good causes in the first eight weeks stands at about £110 million.

## Sinn Fein accusation

A Sinn Fein leader yesterday accused the Government of making misleading statements about the Northern Ireland peace process. Michel McLaughlin, northern council chairman, said Sinn Fein rejected ministers' assertions that the decommissioning of weapons was central to progress.

## Egg poison charge

Robin Webb, 50, the press officer for the Animal Liberation Front, is due to appear before magistrates in Winchester today after being charged in connection with claims that eggs had been poisoned. He was charged under a little-used section of the Public Order Act.

## Two held over fire death

Police are interviewing two men in connection with the murder of Tracey Merton, a mother of two who was kidnapped and burnt to death outside a church in Eaton, Cheshire. The men from Birmingham are being questioned by detectives from Cheshire at a police station in the city.

## City reforms mooted

Labour is considering abolishing the Corporation of London or giving City workers the vote in local elections as part of a plan to create a new authority for the capital. Currently only the 4,000 residents and business people with property rated at over £10 a year may vote for the council that runs the City.



Neil Kinnock in Brussels, where he is renting a townhouse as he starts his new job in Europe

## Kinnock prepares to tackle the deregulation of Europe

NEIL KINNOCK, the former Labour leader, tomorrow makes his first appearance in front of the European Parliament as the EU's Transport Commissioner-designate.

At his confirmation hearing by the Parliament's economics committee, Mr Kinnock will face questions relating to his portfolio, followed by a more general debate about the future of the EU. But judging from the hearings conducted so far, he need not worry the MEPs have turned out to be tame and deferential interrogators.

Mr Kinnock will be charged with one of the most difficult and politically sensitive portfolios. He will be responsible for the liberalisation of Europe's airlines, ferry safety and cross-border infrastructure projects. The irony has not been lost on observers that Mr Kinnock's first executive public function will be to speed up

Wolfgang Münchau says that Labour's former leader can expect a deferential welcome at the European Parliament

liberalisation and deregulation.

The nomination as Transport Commissioner, with a salary of £100,000, means Mr Kinnock will be working near his wife, Glensy, who, as a Labour MEP, is based in Brussels. Unlike other Commissioners, who live in political surroundings on the outskirts of Brussels or in one of the prestigious southern city districts, Mr Kinnock has rented a townhouse in the unfashionable European quarter.

Politically, Mr Kinnock will be among a small majority of Social Democrats and Socialists. Karel van Miert, the Belgian Transport Commissioner and fellow socialist, is a close friend and will be an important ally in his

drive for a more competitive airline regime and lower prices. Shortly after taking office, the two will face the difficult task of tackling a state aid scheme, which the Spanish government is expected to grant to Iberia, the state-owned airline.

Like British Cabinet ministers, European Commissioners are subject to collective responsibility, which limits their freedom to express individual opinions. Mr Kinnock will have to tone down some of his past criticisms of the Maastricht treaty, especially over the economic criteria that determine which countries can eventually take part in the single currency.

In a recent interview with *The Times*, Mr Kinnock attacked these criteria as focus-

ing too much on monetary policy and not enough on "real" factors such as growth, competitiveness and employment. As a Commissioner, one of his most important extracurricular functions will be to influence public opinion about Europe back home, especially in the Labour Party.

Tomorrow's hearing concludes a week-long series. So far they have fallen short of expectations with some commissioners frequently dodging the question. Some who were lost for an answer quoted lengthy sections of the Maastricht treaty, and Sir Leon Brittan even used the opportunity to plug his latest book.

The European Parliament will cast its vote on the new Commission in Strasbourg on January 18. Most MEPs expect it to be approved with a comfortable margin. Mr Kinnock and his colleagues begin their five-year term the following week.

## Left think-tank urges support for referendum

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A COMMITMENT to a referendum on a single European currency should be made now as part of an effort to win popular support for economic and monetary union, the Left's leading think-tank proposes today.

A pamphlet from the Institute of Public Policy Research, written by Alan Donnelly, Labour MEP for Tyne and Wear, and David Ward, who was chief policy adviser to John Smith as Labour leader, says that the only way to make Europe less threatening and more popular is to give people the opportunity to choose.

The report comes as Tony Blair prepares to deliver a detailed statement of his stance on Europe at a fund-raising dinner organised by the European parliamentary Labour Party in Brussels tomorrow. While emphasising Labour's broadly pro-European stance he is expected to call for reforms, notably to agricultural policy, to strengthen support for the European Union. He will repeat Labour's line that further substantial constitutional changes must carry popular consent, either through a referendum or a general election.

The institute has had a big influence on Labour policy-making since it was set up under Neil Kinnock, and today's pamphlet appears to be generally in line with the thinking of the present leadership. Mr Ward and Mr Donnelly, both supporters of a single European currency, say that persistent momentum towards "European Monetary Union" should not be underestimated. It would have huge constitutional significance and mean a profound change in the way Britain was governed.

However, none of the main parties was unequivocally opposed to a single currency, it said. At the last general election, and probably at the next,

there would be no opportunity to vote for an anti-EMU government. "For these reasons the question of a single currency will require a referendum and a commitment to hold one can and should be made immediately. Such a commitment is the best way to inform, involve and interest the British people in a decision that would profoundly affect their lives."

The pamphlet says: "Offering a referendum gives those broadly in favour of EMU the chance to debate the issue free from the accusations of elitism, conspiracy and betrayal that are so often thrown



Donnelly, joint author of think-tank pamphlet

around by those fundamentally opposed to Britain's membership of the EU."

If the public voted No, that would be a democratic decision. "The EU cannot be expected to continue to integrate and expand without the consent of the citizens it exists to serve. There must be greater efforts to win a popular mandate."

"It is our belief that the arguments in favour of EMU will be strong and persuasive. We are also sufficiently optimistic to believe that a British referendum on EMU, after a hard-fought campaign, would produce the answer 'Yes'."

## The Private Life of Plants an illustrated lecture by Sir David Attenborough

READERS of *The Times* are invited to attend an illustrated lecture by Sir David Attenborough on "The Private Life of Plants", organised in conjunction with Dillons the Bookstore, on Wednesday, January 25, at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC2, at 7.30pm.

Sir David is Britain's best-known biologist. His ground-breaking television programmes and books on wildlife have ensured our introduction to the lives of almost every animal in existence. Now, in his new BBC series, *The Private Life of Plants*, he turns his attention to flora and fauna, revealing in spectacular fashion that, much like animals, plants have to mate, compete with enemies, find food and get along with their neighbours. Sir David's illustrated talk will be based on the BBC book of the series.

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## Virgin says BA still plays dirty tricks

By JON ASHWORTH

VIRGIN Atlantic claimed yesterday that British Airways did not call off the "dirty tricks" campaign against it despite a public climbdown two years ago that paved the way for record damages.

Virgin, headed by Richard Branson, says that BA has continued passenger poaching and other measures since the late 1980s, an accusation that could result in up to \$1 billion damages in American courts. Lawyers acting for Virgin fly to New York today to prepare for an imminent court hearing into allegations of anti-competitive behaviour.

The airline won approval last week to proceed with its anti-trust lawsuit against BA. The lawsuit, launched in October 1993, accuses BA of using corporate discounts and rebates to lure agents in an attempt to lure traffic on the fiercely competitive transatlantic air route.

A Virgin spokesman said yesterday that details of the alleged "dirty tricks" would be revealed in court.

BA said that nothing of substance had been decided by last week's judgment. "There has been no ruling that BA has violated US anti-trust laws or that Virgin in fact has an anti-trust claim whatsoever," the airline said.

## MP claims Butler knew 'spy' names

By ANDREW PIERCE

SIR Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, was told several months ago the identities of five senior Labour politicians who will be named in the Commons tomorrow as former Russian agents of influence, according to the *Tory MP Rupert Allason*.

Mr Allason will accuse the five politicians, under the cloak of parliamentary privilege, of working for the Soviet Union during the Cold War. He said: "I have seen correspondence about these people which was signed by Sir Robin. He was personally involved in dealing with this issue. I have no idea whether the Prime Minister knows."

"The information was passed to me from someone in intelligence. These people, who I think I have a duty to name, have known for months that they have been discussed at the highest level. I have written to them asking for clarification of their activities. I do not know if they were willing or unwilling agents or whether they were paid."

According to Mr Allason, who writes spy books under the name Nigel West, one of the five serves on the Labour front bench. He believes that they were on a list given to British intelligence by Oleg Gordievsky, the London head of the KGB, when he defected in 1985. Mr Gordievsky, who was a double agent, denied last night that he had blown the whistle.

"It's not true," he said. "British intelligence is too discreet to leak to a Tory MP and writer. This is a work of fantasy by Mr Allason, who I know and like. The last time I saw him... we talked about Moscow and the KGB, but I never gave him any names."

Mr Allason will allege that the five were closely associated with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in the 1980s. They include two current MPs, a former MP and a Euro-MP. The fifth is dead.

The list was denounced as a stunt by the Labour MP Ken Livingstone, a supporter of CND. "Rupert Allason is a mouthpiece for M15. I don't believe a word of it. I shall look for the list tomorrow. I will be very disappointed if my name is not on it."



Sir Robin: alleged to be "personally involved"

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## Opponents question Agriculture Minister's commitment to stopping inhumane treatment of animals

## Waldegrave defends supply of calves from his farm to exporters

BY ELAINE FOOG

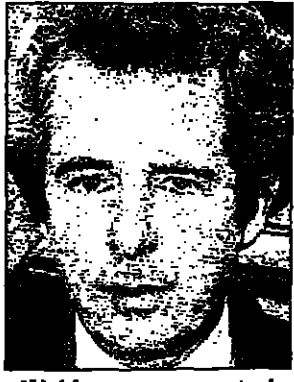
THE Agriculture Minister, William Waldegrave, came under renewed pressure from animal rights campaigners yesterday after conceding that calves from his farm might end up in veal crates when exported to the Continent.

Defending the actions of his farm managers, Mr Waldegrave said the way to halt the live export of calves would be to change farming methods on the Continent.

Mr Waldegrave, whose ministry banned the veal crate system five years ago, said he had behaved like any other farmer in sending his calves to market.

The minister's comments came after protests at the weekend when more than 1,000 people demonstrated against the export of live animals at Shoreham, West Sussex. Twenty-one people were arrested as they attempted to stop lorries carrying calves onto ships to the Continent.

Last night security was tightened around Mr Waldegrave's estate amid fears that it could become a target for animal rights protesters. Rookery dairy farm at Chewton Mendip, Somerset, covers 1,000 acres of the 3,500-acre family estate. It has a



Waldegrave: no control over calves once sold

herd of 400 prize Friesians and is managed by John Lucksted, who confirmed that the calves were being sent abroad. The Friesians supply milk to the family cheese business.

In an interview on BBC Radio's *The World This Week* yesterday, Mr Waldegrave said he had no control over who bought the bull calves once they were sent from the farm for auction in Avon.

"We should get rid of veal crates in Europe. UK animals are in an internal European market and they can be traded legally under European law," said Mr Waldegrave, who resigned as director of the estate when he took up his

ministerial post. Later, in a statement issued through the Ministry of Agriculture, he said: "High standards for animals in transport has been a government priority and the law is to be further strengthened from January 23." The new welfare of animals order will require tighter controls on transportation.

Joyce D'Silva, director of Compassion in World Farming, said the disclosure about the minister's farm put a question mark over his understanding of the issues. "The minister, like all other dairy farmers, has got to take responsibility for the animals he breeds," she said. Gavin Strang, Shadow Agriculture Minister, said Mr Waldegrave could stop the trade if he wished. "If there were an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the south of Britain these exports would be halted immediately."

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said its director-general, Peter Davies, would be calling for an urgent meeting with the National Farmers' Union and the Meat and Livestock Commission. "We always got on well with the minister, but this is very regrettable," a spokesman said.

But there was support for Mr Waldegrave from the National Farmers' Union. Anthony Gibson, regional director for southwest England, said: "There is nothing he can do once the animals have gone to the auction. If the calves didn't get bought from here they would come from Eastern Europe, and that would be a longer journey which would cause the animals more suffering."

"If Mr Waldegrave is planning to take this up in Brussels we would back him fully, as would most farmers."

Letters, page 17



Most British veal calves are sold to France or The Netherlands, where they are kept in narrow pens and fed on a diet that ensures pale meat

## Dairy farms rely on sales to veal trade

Many farmers support a European ban on calf crates but there is little chance of achieving one, Michael Hornsby writes

IF THE Agriculture Minister is guilty of cruelty to animals by allowing calves on his family's farm to be exported to the Continent for veal production, so are many, if not most, British dairy farmers.

Welfare campaigners want the export of all live food animals banned to avoid the stress of long-distance transport. They particularly object to the trade in calves because of the fate that awaits them at the end of their journeys.

Most calves are sent to France and The Netherlands and reared by the veal crate system made illegal in Britain five years ago. The animals, taken from their mothers and exported within

two weeks of birth, are confined, barely able to move, in narrow pens for six months until slaughter. They are fed on a semi-liquid, iron-deficient diet to produce the white meat favoured by continental veal eaters.

In 1993, the last full year of uninterrupted trade, the 26,000 dairy farms in England and Wales exported about 500,000 calves, earning £95 million. The exported calves are predominantly the male offspring of dairy cows,

which have to produce calves continuously to maintain a high milk yield. Without the foreign outlet there would be no market for these bull calves, which do not produce milk and are surplus to domestic beef requirements.

Many dairy farmers, such as William Waldegrave, sell their calves at local livestock markets. Others sell directly to the dealers who specialise in the export trade, which at least has the advantage that the animals are transported

more quickly. Some dairy farmers are able to find other farmers who will buy their surplus males for rearing as beef. But all dairy farmers depend on the export trade to maintain calf prices.

Jim Pitts, who keeps 200 dairy cows at Meads Ashby, Northamptonshire, is one of those able to find a local outlet for the hundred or so surplus male calves he produces each year, but he robustly defends the right of others to sell abroad. "The disruption to the trade has already hit us all," he said. "I am getting only £60 to £75 a head now, compared with £120 to £140 a year ago. Over a full year, this would mean £35 less income per dairy

cow, a loss of £7,000." Veal is not eaten much in Britain except in restaurants and hotels, many of which import from The Netherlands and France the meat that originated on British farms. Even if domestic veal production were expanded to satisfy that demand, it would mop up only a tiny proportion of surplus calf production.

Most farmers support Mr Waldegrave's view that the right approach is to ban veal crates throughout Europe. But there is scant hope of that. Member states cannot even agree on the most minimal protection for animals during transport, let alone on methods of husbandry.



Minister's home on family estate in Somerset

## Surgery for six-hour-old baby

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BABY has had open-heart surgery six hours after he was born. Luke Oakshot, who is thought to be the youngest child in Britain to have had such an operation, would have died within a day without it.

Luke was diagnosed as suffering from hypoplastic left heart condition — caused by a malformed artery which prevents blood being pumped around the body — before he was born. His mother Amanda was offered an abortion,

but chose to continue with the pregnancy after hearing that an operation could be performed at the Children's Hospital in Birmingham, and moved from Lancashire to the Midlands. The Oakshots already have a son Ethan, 4, who had to have surgery for a hole in the heart.

Luke was born at Birmingham Maternity Hospital by a Caesarean delivery on Thursday but his condition rapidly deteriorated and he was

rushed to the nearby Children's Hospital. Dr Bill Brown was on standby to perform the operation and doctors decided immediate surgery was his only hope. Yesterday Luke was out of intensive care and is likely to go home this week.

He faces another three relatively minor operations in the next three years but John Wright, a cardiologist at the Children's Hospital, said his future "looks rosy".

## Historic houses cash in on screen appeal

BY RACHEL KELLY  
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

HOLLYWOOD film-makers are injecting funds into Britain's crumbling country houses by using them as locations. Fees of several thousand pounds a day enable owners to embark on repairs that otherwise they could not afford, the Historic Houses Association (HHA) says.

Last year a record 37 foreign-backed films were shot in Britain. Big-budget American productions included *Braveheart*, with Mel Gibson, *Rob Roy*, with Liam Neeson, and the King Arthur legend *First Knight*, with Richard Gere and Sean Connery. Parts of *Rob Roy* were shot at Megginch Castle, Tayside, owned by Captain Humphrey Drummond and Baroness Strange.

Norman Hudson, from the HHA, says: "The making of these films is providing a welcome windfall. A successful film can generate publicity and encourage paying visitors. 'Look at the effect of *Brideshead Revisited*, for example, on Castle Howard," he said.

For Angela Horn, owner of Luckington Court, a Queen Anne house near Chippenham, Wiltshire, opening her home to the cameras for the BBC's forthcoming production of *Pride and Prejudice* has meant that she now has the money to re-roof the west wing. She has put up with her wallpaper being stripped, furniture and radiators removed and about 60 strangers in her home for the eight weeks of filming but she says she will miss the crew on their departure and their delicious catering.

"It will be like a ghost town," she said. "But I cheer up by reminding myself that I now have enough money to re-roof the west wing and to put back the old stairs." In March the HHA is holding its first seminar on filming at country homes to encourage its 1,000 members to take advantage. It recommends charges of between £1,400 and £2,750 a day for interior shots and about £800 to £1,000 for exterior shots.

## Schoolgirl tipped as the face of 95

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

A GIRL aged 14, predicted to be "the face of 1995" after being signed by a leading model agency, will be back in the classroom this week as her first fashion spreads hit the news stands.

Lamorna Watts, 14, was signed by Select, the agency that launched the supermodel Helena Christensen, after being spotted in two model competitions.

Her new term at The Red Maids' School in Bristol, Britain's oldest private school for girls, starts tomorrow just as the teen magazines *Shout* and *Sugar*, featuring Lamorna's first fashion spreads, go on sale.

Representatives of Select say that Chrissie Castagnetti, the director responsible for choosing new faces, planned to sign Lamorna from the moment they met in October when she was invited to London for a day of castings.



Lamorna Watts, hopes to model between schoolwork

Lamorna chose Monday. "It's easier to miss school if you've been ill over the weekend," she said.

She hopes to squeeze in future modelling assignments between school work. So far her teachers have been co-operative. Early last year Lamorna appeared on stage alongside Phillip Schofield in

They know I'm not that brainy so this is my thing. They're really brainy but they want to do this too," Lamorna said.

Her life changed even more in December when her mother, who was divorced from her father, and travelled with Lamorna on assignments, was killed in a motorway accident. Peter Watts, an independent financial adviser who had not lived with his daughter, an only child, since she was six, suddenly found himself helping the 14-year-old through both the grief of losing her mother and the futilities of the fashion world.

"It's a total change for me," he said, "but I will do everything I can to support Lamorna. I'll be crucially anyone who takes advantage of her."

In the mean time Lamorna has all the conventional trappings of teenage girlhood. "I was invited to a cousin's Christmas ball but couldn't go. I don't have anything to wear to a ball."

THE TIMES  
Win the trip of a lifetime to the biggest party in history

Today is day thirteen of *The Times Millennium 2000*, which offers readers the opportunity to spend New Year's Eve 1999 crossing the International Date Line to both Fiji and the Cook Islands to see in the new millennium twice. First prize is a 28 day world air cruise for two culminating in New Year 1999 in Fiji and the Cook Islands to join in the festivities. The trip takes in Dubai, Thailand, Singapore, Tucson, Washington and Sydney. It includes helicopter sightseeing over the Fiji Islands and hot-air ballooning over the Arizona desert, and would cost £64,000 to book in 1999.

A second prize of a ten day stay for two in Fiji and the Cook Islands worth up to £7,000 and a third prize of two tickets chosen from any of the millennium party venues available to readers are also on offer.

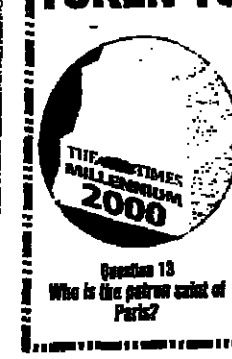
Should you be unsuccessful in the competition, you can still take part in the festivities by booking the Fiji and Cook Islands trip separately or taking advantage of our selection of deluxe party venues round the world.

The parties are the brainchild of *The Millennium Foundation*, a non-profit-making charity which is organising fundraising parties to help specific local charities across the world. In St Petersburg, for instance, the money will help restore the Hermitage gallery and fund the Kirov Ballet.

You could, for example, celebrate the dawn of the new millennium at Versailles, once the magnificent residence of the French Kings while staying in luxury at the Trianon Palace hotel, converted from a chateau in the park of Versailles itself. The cost is £1,500 per person now or £35 per month per person for five years.

**CORRECTION.** Please note that question 11 should have read: When did Mexico cede the state of California to the United States?

## TOKEN 13



To enter the competition collect the 18 tokens and answer the 18 questions which are appearing between December 26 and Saturday January 14. Send the tokens and answers on a separate sheet of paper, stating in not more than 15 words why you would like to join in the celebrations, to: *The Times Millennium 2000 Competition*, 5 Britons Court, London EC8B 6NG. Closing date January 31, 1995. Normal Times competition rules apply.

Details of how to book the millennium gala parties, which appeared last week, will appear again on Saturday. Further information about the parties can be obtained by writing to: Millennium 2000 Ltd, Freeport GW 7623, Glasgow G3 7BR.

## KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

**Harry Golombek**, OBE, international grandmaster and doyen of British chess, died at the weekend. For 40 years he was chess correspondent of *The Times*, during which period he won the British Championship three times, represented England and published some of the foremost works on the game. Today and the coming week I shall be paying tribute to his genius.

White: Golombek  
Black: Horowitz  
Warsaw 1935

English Opening		
1 c4	Nf6	
2 Nc3	c6	
3 e4	d5	
4 e5	Nc7	
5 d4	e6	
6 Nf3	Be7	
7 Bc3	dxc4	
8 Bxc4	Nc6	
9 Bc3	Nd5	
10 0-0	Nd7	
11 Ng4	h6	
12 a3	c5	
13 dxc5	Nxc5	
14 Nxc5	Bxc5	
15 b4	Bc7	
16 Bc2	Bd7	
17 Nc4	0-0	
18 Qc4	Bc8	
19 Rad1	Rc8	
20 Be4	Rc4	
21 Rd3	Qd7	
22 Rg3	g6	

23 Bc3	Rc6
24 Bc4	Nd6
25 f5	exd5
26 Nd5	Bg5
27 f4	g5
28 Bc5	Qc2
29 Ng5	Nc4
30 Kc2	Rc4
31 Qxc4	Nc5
32 Kc3	Qd2
33 Qd6	Qxc4
34 Kc4	Qd6
35 Qc4	Qd4
36 Rd4	Bc6
37 Rd4	Rc8
38 g4	Kg8
39 Kf4	Bc4
40 Kg5	b6
41 Kf6	Bb3
42 g5	Rc8
43 Rf7	Rc8
44 Rf7	Rc4
45 Kf7	Rc8
46 Rf8+	Rc8
47 Kc8	Bc5
48 Kc7	Bc4
49 Kc7	Bc6
50 Bc3	a5
51 Nc6	a4
52 Kc5	Bc3
53 Kc6	Bc2
54 Kc7	Bc3
55 Kc6	Bc2
56 Bb5	Bc3
57 Bc6	Black resigns

## Correction

Erling Mortensen, who lost at Hastings to Harriet Hunt, is an international master not a grandmaster as stated in Saturday's column.

Obituary, page 19  
Winning Move, page 44

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN  
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The first trick goes seven, eight, ace. How should South set about the play?

**Answer:** While on the whole I don't think much of rules of thumb, "side-suit first" is a good adage whenever the trump position is at all dodgy. Many players would go wrong on today's hand. If South draws two rounds of trumps before setting about the diamonds, he can always be defeated. Say he continues with a high diamond. East ducks and West ruffs the next round of the suit. West continues hearts. South ruffs and plays another diamond. West

ruffs, and plays another heart. The declarer is restricted to dummy's four top spades, the ace of hearts and two ruffs, one diamond and one club — nine tricks.

At the table the declarer realised he could afford to let the defence get one diamond ruff, so after taking the ace of spades he played on diamonds. Now if the defence attempt to play as described above the declarer can ruff three hearts in his hand. In practice East took the first round of diamonds and gave his partner a ruff, but the declarer was now in control to draw trumps and cash three more diamond tricks, as well as taking a heart ruff.

Dealer North		Love all. Rubber bridge	
♠AKQ9 ♥A72 ♦K9 ♣A4		♠5 ♥K1083 ♦A842 ♣7652	
♠10732 ♥Q654 ♦7 ♣KJ83		♠J854 ♥A ♦QJ1098 ♣Q106	
W	N	E	S
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♠
All pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Opening lead: ♣4			



## Shepherd urged to give £5,000 vouchers for nursery places

By BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

PARENTS of three and four-year-olds should receive up to £5,000 a year in vouchers to buy places in private nursery schools, a right-wing think-tank said yesterday.

The Adam Smith Institute increased the pressure on Gillian Shepherd to find a free-market way of implementing John Major's pledge to expand pre-school provision by demanding the privatisation of education for under-fives. The Education Secretary is in the middle of a review exploring ways of providing a place for every four-year-old.

Under the Adam Smith plan, parents would be issued with vouchers to ensure universal access to pre-school places, including centres offering education and day care from 8am to 6pm all year round. People paying income tax at 40 per cent would receive a voucher for £1,000, about 20 per cent of the cost of a place. Basic rate taxpayers would receive a £3,000 voucher and those below that level the full £5,000.

David Soskin, author of *Pre-Schools For All: A Market Solution*, argues that local authorities should lose their role in day care and education and be replaced by the private sector. The report calls for an audit of state schools to establish where unused space is available which might be used as premises for new nursery

schools. Private operators would be allowed to bid to run pre-schools on such premises. Planning regulations would be eased to encourage new nurseries to open.

The report says that by providing integrated education and day care, more parents would be given the opportunity to work. That would reduce the dependency on social security of some parents forced to stay at home by the current costs of



Soskin: "teachers would soon set up own schools"

childcare. Inspectors would examine the quality of private nurseries.

Mr Soskin, the founder of a large group of independent pre-schools, estimates the plan would cost £3.5 billion and create 350,000 jobs. He says: "The shortage of places would be replaced by a flood. The bureaucracy would be lifted. Premises would suddenly become available; and stimulated by the new ease of operations, teachers and nursery nurses would soon start to operate their own establishments."

The intervention by the institute is the second from the right within a month. The Centre for Policy Studies called in December for vouchers worth about £700 a year, the cost of a playgroup place. Parents would be free to top up the voucher, worth about half the cost of an independent nursery place, if they wished.

Mrs Shepherd has established a departmental task force to put flesh on the bones of Mr Major's "cash-for-commitment" to provide a pre-school place for every four-year-old. It has a remit to ensure that expansion reflects parental choice and secures value for money. Mrs Shepherd's proposals, to be published this year, will include regulation and inspection.

Education, page 35

## Tate uses state of the art chips to explain its works

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A DETAILED explanation of the works on display in the Tate Gallery will be available at the touch of a button from the end of the month. Using micro-chip technology, commentaries on the symbolism and inspiration behind works, techniques used and revelations as a result of conservation work are played on a mobile handset resembling a telephone.

The Tate Gallery is the first British art institution to introduce the audio-tour system, which has been a great success at the Louvre in Paris since it was introduced in 1993.

The guides, narrated by artists and curators, give general information on galleries, then, if the visitor's appetite is whetted, more extensive information on specific exhibits. They can be rewound or fast-forwarded.

David Hockney is among the leading British artists talking visitors through their work. He can be heard discussing his fascination for the surface and movement of water, the inspiration for his 1967 acrylic *The Bigger Splash*.

The "TateInform" system has been developed by Acoustiguide, the recorded



A visitor to the Tate Gallery learning more about Hockney's *The Bigger Splash* from TateInform

tour company. The cost is £2, or £1.50 for concessions. It will be launched at the Tate on January 31, to coincide with the opening of New Displays, the annual rotation of its permanent collection, when works are brought out of the store-rooms and displayed in "thought-provoking" juxtapositions.

For example, this year's display, which traces the evolution of British art from the 16th century, will explore intense personal emotion by showing Picasso's study of grief, *Weeping Woman*, with Bacon's wartime *Crucifixion* triptych.

The micro-chip technology enables commentaries to be altered or extended within minutes. A spokeswoman explained that if a guide had to be updated suddenly—for example to take account of an artist's death or special opening hours—the system required no more than a dictator unit. It is also extremely durable: in one experiment, a unit was

working perfectly after being thrown against a wall. The Tate Gallery announced yesterday that it had achieved record attendances at its Millbank site in London last year. The previous high was 1.81 million in 1991: in the past year the gallery attracted 2.22 million visitors.

## Double murder 'was mistake in gangland war'

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

DETECTIVES hunting the murderer of two south London businessmen now believe they were the innocent victims of gangland feuds that have involved contract killings.

In what is suspected to be a case of mistaken identity, Michael McCormack, 59, and John Ogden, 34, were strangled back to back after a lunchtime drink last October when they were shot in the back of the head by a lone gunman. The killer probably confused one of them for another target he was ordered to kill in long-running struggles across south London over drugs, status and territory.

The 27-strong investigation team, headed by Detective Superintendent David Don, has looked at possible links with murders and woundings with south London gang connections. In March 1991 a man was gunned down in a Walworth betting shop. A few months later two men were killed in a public house in Bermondsey. James Moody disappeared after spending years in hiding and was killed in 1993 in north London.

Mr McCormack and Mr Ogden were each shot in the back of the head in Balham by a man who had been waiting in a sandwich bar opposite the public house where they were drinking. Mr McCormack

was a director of an indexing company a few minutes' walk away. Mr Ogden was the works manager.

Detectives believe the killer's view from the sandwich bar may have been partly obscured by net curtains. Having seen the two men leave the public house, the gunman made up his mind to act and strode forward armed with a Colt .45 automatic.

He drove off in a white Vauxhall Cavalier D880 MYG bought in September with £1,500 cash and a false name from a family in Catford, southeast London. The car was later found burnt out in an alley.

Mr Don said that Mr McCormack and Mr Ogden were model citizens who did not appear to have any enemies and both were hard working. "They were both very strong family men with strong family commitments. There is nothing in their private lives which shows anything untoward."

Police have also found no leads in their business. Mr Don said: "We are left with the growing feeling that this could have been mistaken identity." Mr McCormack's son Steven said the families had thought all along that the killings were a case of mistaken identity, and that he was glad that this was the belief of the police.

## BA chief accuses Heathrow protesters

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

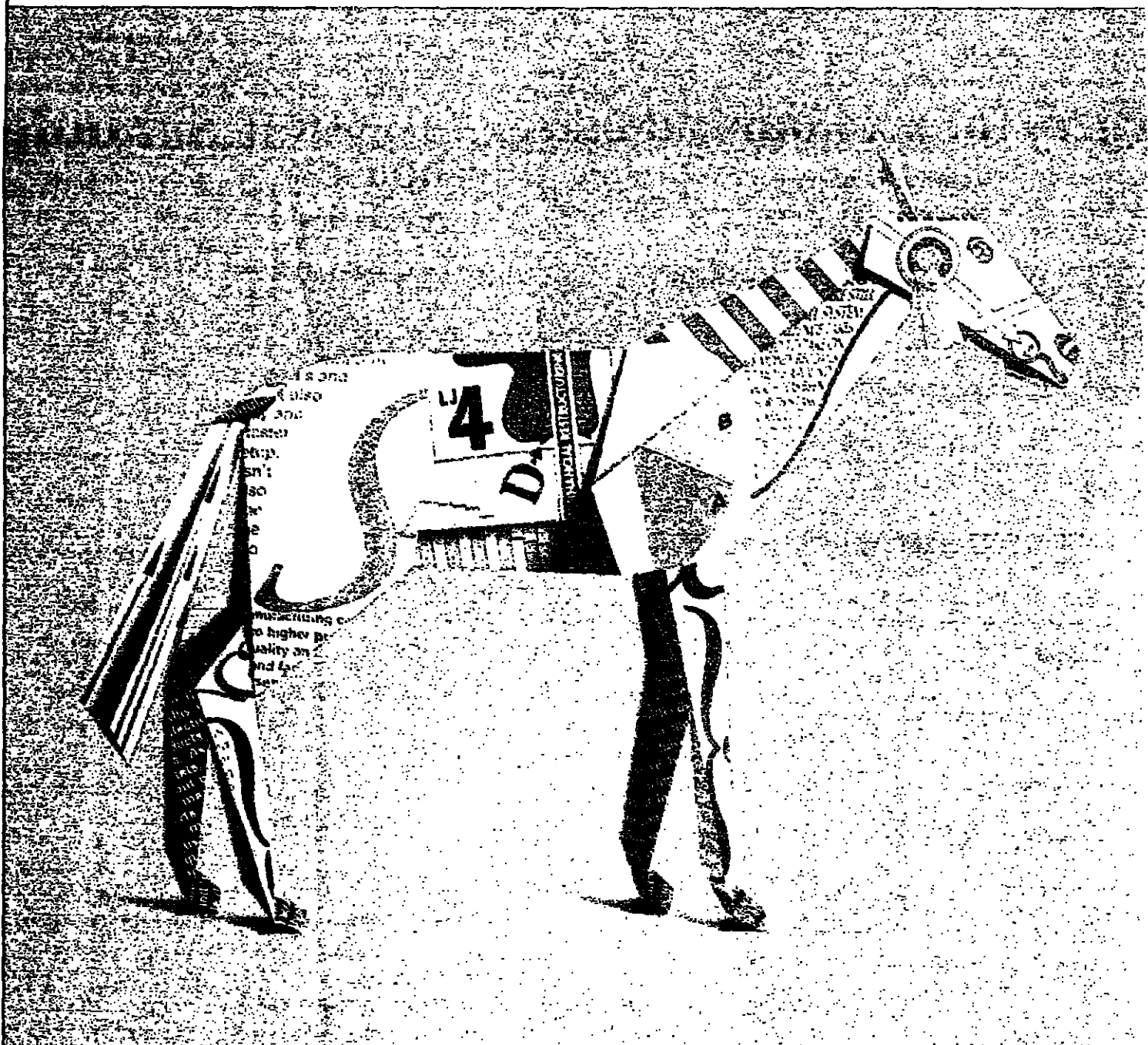
PROTESTERS against the development of Heathrow airport could do as much damage to the aviation industry as the dock unions did to ports in the 1960s, according to Sir Colin Marshall, the chairman of British Airways.

"If we failed to get a fifth terminal built at Heathrow it would mean that, over time, the airlines would move their main base to mainland Europe — just as the Port of London was effectively transferred to Rotterdam," he said.

Sir Colin said almost all of those complaining had bought houses or moved into the area since Heathrow was an airport, and even though the noise footprint had been much reduced they still complained. "They chose to live where they are and if they did not have the foresight at the time, it is no good now blaming us or BAA for the fact that aircraft fly over their homes."

John Boulton, of the Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise, said: "The future does not belong to the airlines. They promised there would be no more than 200,000 movements a year but now there are over 400,000. How can they argue that we must simply put up with whatever they decide to do to us?"

## What kept you?



## Archaeologists sink efforts into tracing Scots wrecks

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ARCHAEOLOGISTS are to trace thousands of forgotten shipwrecks lying off the coast of Scotland in an effort to preserve them and to build up a study of the nation's seafaring past.

From today archaeologists from the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments, based in Edinburgh, will be contacting hundreds of organisations, including diving schools, fishermen's groups, coastguards and Lloyd's registers, to trace the wrecks.

The project comes after a six-month pilot study in the Highlands which plotted 500 wrecks. It was co-ordinated by Deanna Groom, a post-graduate student from St Andrew's University, in conjunction with Highland Region's archaeologist John Wood. Ms Groom has been recruited by the Royal Commission to continue her work on a national basis.

She says that areas of high archaeological potential such as the Pentlands Firth will become apparent as a result of the study. She is optimistic that, eventually, organisa-



The Dartmouth, lone Highland ship protected by law

tions seeking planning permission for pipelines or oil platforms at sea will make underwater archaeological studies a standard part of their application.

Of the 500 wrecks discovered in Highland Region, only one, *The Dartmouth*, a Royal Navy ship which sank in the Sound of Mull in 1690, is protected by legislation. Mr Wood said that one aim of the survey was to persuade the growing number of divers not to plunder wrecks. "We work with leisure divers and have trained 15 local divers in marine archaeology techniques," he said. "Divers can be a source of information about wrecks but they can also damage them. They take artefacts which immediately

decay when they reach the surface."

Mr Wood said one use for the database would be to inform the oil industry and quarrying groups of important archaeological sites on the coast and at sea in order to protect them. He said only a handful of Scottish wrecks were protected by legislation but he was optimistic that the project would lead to protection for more wrecks.

"The earliest we know about date from the 17th century. There may be earlier wrecks but they tend not to be recorded before then. There could be thousands of important sites waiting to be discovered. I am sure there are some with valuable cargoes aboard."

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Videos and lager replace the wireless

# Britain of today is wealthier but more miserable

By MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE British are a nation of video addicts, obsessed with driving their cars on congested motorways, who have forsaken the traditional diet of beef and beer in favour of chicken and lager.

The official handbook *Britain 1995*, published today, says that over the 30 years since the end of the Second World War Britons have become wealthier but appear to have become more miserable. British complacency, moreover, has given way to increasing self-criticism and doubt, as the threat of unemployment continues to permeate the entire social spectrum.

Compiled by the Central Office of Information, the executive agency responsible for government information and publicity, the handbook highlights the myriad economic and social changes that have transformed Britain and its inhabitants since the guide was first published in 1945. During that time, patterned pinafores, rationing and pea-soupers have given way to mini-skirts, consumer durables and tropospheric ozone.

When the handbook was first published, almost half the population worked in manufacturing industries. Now there are 17 deep mines, compared with 850 when coal was king. In 1950, service industries provided half Britain's gross domestic product. By 1993, they accounted for more than two thirds.

Government economists tell

us that since 1971 disposable income has increased by nearly 80 per cent, even allowing for inflation. We are, therefore, almost twice as well off as we were in the early 1970s.

An introduction by John Humphrys, the BBC broadcaster, also highlights the changes in popular attitudes that have forever altered the social fabric. For much of the post-war period, the male



Changing face of work: only 17 pits remain

labour force believed it had a right to a job for life. Such attitudes no longer exist.

In the old days, recessions were different. Mr Humphrys writes. Before the advent of the computer, recessions were followed by booms and the jobs would always return. Now they do not. Concern about job security now affects everyone from mandarin to road sweeper.

Britain has changed in more

subtle ways as well. Holidays in Bournemouth and Bognor have been replaced by package tours; the popular adage "fog across the Channel - Continent cut off" has been rendered meaningless by the Channel Tunnel; and when someone talks about drugs, they are not referring to aspirin.

Cities are no longer clogged by the smoke from millions of coal fires. But the ten-fold increase in cars since 1952 has created new environmental health hazards. In 1950, Britain had no motorways; now it has a 1,800-mile network.

Prosperity, and the growth in higher education, have done much to dismantle the rigid class structure of the pre-war years. Fewer people talk about the wireless these days and television has been a great leveller, watched by duke and dustman alike.

The average size of households has fallen from more than four people in 1911 to three in 1961 and 2.4 in 1992, and with it has come a transformation in the economic and domestic lives of women, the handbook says. A big factor has been the rise in the number of women, particularly married women, at work. Women now make up almost half of the workforce, with more than 740,000 of them running their own businesses.

Our eating habits have also changed markedly. Consumption of beef, lamb, pork, sugar and fat has declined dramatically while consumption of poultry and lettuce is at its highest. Lager accounts for half of all beer sales. Life expectancy for men is 73 and 78 for women, up from 49 and 52 respectively since 1901.

Some things, however, never change. As Mr Humphrys says, the inhabitants of these islands still believe that "Britain is the worst country in the world to live in - except, of course, for all the others."

□ Britain 1995: 50 Years of Change (HMSO: £25)

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW BRITAIN?

- 1 How many video cassettes are hired in Britain every week?
- 2 How many cars are on the roads compared with 1952?
- 3 What proportion of employees are women?
- 4 How many miles of motorway are there?
- 5 What percentage of households are owner-occupied?
- 6 How much television does the average Briton watch?
- 7 What is the population?
- 8 What is the divorce rate?
- 9 How many people read a national newspaper?
- 10 What is the strongest gust of wind ever recorded in Britain?

Answers: 1: Six million; 2: 20 million, up from two million; 3: 49.6 per cent; 4: 1,900; 5: 67 per cent; 6: More than 3.5 hours a day; 7: 58 million; 8: 13.6 per 1,000 marriages; 9: Six out of ten; 10: 173mph.



Di Reed, expecting her third child, at home with Madeleine, 2, and Harriet, 3½

## Place where technology can make life more peaceful

By OUR COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

MIKE and Di Reed are starting a new life with the new year. Moving from Bradford to their favourite holiday spot in the Western Isles had long been their dream but it became a reality only thanks to technology.

Mrs Reed, 38, a freelance copywriter, has worked for the Royal Mail, the AA, American Express and the Prince's Youth Business Trust. With a telephone, fax machine and a modern sea can do her job as well from the shores of Loch Ouirn on Lewis as from offices in Bradford and Manchester.

The couple spent two Christmases on the island to see if they could put up with the last six hours and south-westerly gales howl in most days from the Atlantic. Having passed this self-imposed initiation test, they moved in September - with their two children, two dogs, four cats and 22 carp - to a tiny cottage on a hillside above the loch at Gravir.

Mr Reed, 37, a fish-fly tier, sells by mail order. He is in his element on Lewis, having found life on the mainland "unhappily stressful." "The teenage crime and the fact that everything there is so much trouble made us yearn for something else," he said.

Every time they holidayed on Lewis the couple found it harder to return, Mrs Reed explained. "I began to worry that my children were growing up behind my back. I've got this old-fashioned idea that it's parents' job to bring up their children and that is not possible if you are out all day earning money."

They realised life on the island was cheaper but not Mrs Reed said. "If you come here with some romanticised view it can be very hard." The Reeds are planning ways to supplement their income but with a mortgage of £15 a week, they already enjoy a better quality of life.

## Isolated islands lead the way in home working

By IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

EFFICIENT people living in remote corners of the Western Isles have just won a contract that puts them at the forefront of the computer age. Training began last week and from next month their cottages will pour information down the electronic superhighway, bringing work and prosperity to one of Britain's more depressed regions.

The news that they had won the contract against tough competition from the mainland came on Christmas Eve. In an area where unemployment is double the British average, the jobs are especially valuable.

"It's like all our Christmas cakes came at once," Donnie Morrison, the information technology (IT) expert employed by the local council and enterprise board, said. "This shows the way ahead." The contract involves editing articles from business journals, reducing and indexing them to a common format for a company that sells a reference service to subscribers. The 15 people involved will be able to work from their homes in North and South Uist and Benbecula and send their finished copy through for editorial checking before it is fed into the database.

"This type of work means that we can at last make proper use of the islanders' skills," Mr Morrison, who in May became the first IT expert to be employed in this way in Britain, said. "We have more graduates per head of population than any other part of the UK but it is difficult for them to find work here. I have people with fantastic qualifications that they cannot use working on fish farms. They want to live here but have to leave because there is no suitable work."

Mr Morrison left the island 22 years ago to find work so he understands the problem well. He was sales marketing director for a computer com-

pany when he was offered the chance to return home to create the infrastructure needed to turn the islands into a computer outpost.

He has compiled a register of more than 200 people able to provide a range of office skills, computer programming, specialist research and translation services in Russian, Norwegian, French, German, Spanish and Gaelic. Inquiries are starting to flood in to him from islanders who want to take advantage of the opportunities to return to their birthplace.

He has plans to compete in the temporary secretary market in London. "Offices there have to pay up to £16 an hour and often never get the same girl two days running. We can charge less than that and provide a secretary who can work consistently for a firm. We charge less and can provide higher quality." Those on the register can be helped to buy or rent the common format for a company that sells a reference service to subscribers.

"We are leading the way in this kind of thing precisely because we are so remote," Mr Morrison said. "We stand at the front here of a new age because we are no longer cut off and forgotten."

Adding to the islands' reputation for innovation, the Isle of Lewis is creating one of the world's first computer universities. Students will be linked into the worldwide Internet system, which is about to bring the most modern higher education to some of the most remote communities in Europe.

Education, page 35

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## Baby link to girl's abduction

Police are looking for a father in his thirties after the abduction and sexual assault of a 13-year-old who was dragged off her bicycle in Cheshire.

The man, who bundled the girl into his car, assaulted her and dumped her near the M56, had a baby seat fitted in his Vauxhall Cavalier. Police said yesterday that he "appears to have been respectable family man". The girl was questioned by female officers before returning home.

### Farmer in court

A farmer who allegedly shot a poacher on his land at Elwick, Co Durham, appeared before Peterlee magistrates charged with the manslaughter of Thomas Vout, 37, of Murton, Co Durham, Douglas Bailes, 30, was remanded in custody until January 12.

### Murder charge

Two youths aged 16 and 17 have been charged with the murder of Bessie Robinson, 33, found in her burning Belfast home. They are due to appear before magistrates today.

### Fire boy critical

Two teenagers were being questioned after a boy aged 13 ran into a pub engulfed in flames. Shane Nolan, of Hull, was in a critical condition with burns on his upper body.

### Flare attack

A 22-year-old man was in an Oxford hospital with head wounds after Oldham football fans returning from a match at Reading fired a distress flare at him in the street.

### Hunt arrests

Ten hunt saboteurs, three of them juveniles, were arrested on charges of aggravated trespass at a meeting of the Garth and South Berkshire foxhunt near Basingstoke.

### Warren saved

A rabbit warren on the Dunstable Downs in Bedfordshire, believed to date from medieval times, is to be preserved as a site of national importance.

## Elderly heart patients denied life-saving drugs

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

ELDERLY people who suffer heart attacks are receiving inferior treatment on the National Health Service that reduces their chances of survival, evidence from a survey shows.

Researchers found that older victims are being denied life-saving drugs. Only two thirds of those over 74 were given clot-busting drugs on admission to hospital, compared with nine out of ten of those aged under 65.

The drugs have been shown to reduce the death rate after a heart attack by a quarter if given within four hours of the onset of symptoms. Studies have shown that their wider use could save thousands of lives in Britain.

There have been repeated allegations in recent years, which have been denied by ministers, that the expensive drugs are being withheld from older people and that hospitals

operate age bars for admission to specialist coronary care units.

The survey of 420 randomly selected patients who were admitted to hospitals in the Trent region between February and April 1993 after heart attacks found that 92 per cent of those under 65 received the drugs compared with 67 per cent of those over 74. Among patients aged 65 to 74, 88 per cent received the drugs.

Dr Kent Woods, reader in therapeutics at the University of Leicester, who disclosed the findings in a letter to the current *British Medical Journal*, said there was a "very clear trend towards the lower use of the drugs in the elderly". However, the discrimination was more likely to be the result of poor organisation of care than overt ageism, he said.

"I am not aware of any coronary care unit that now

has an explicit policy of not admitting patients over a certain age," Dr Woods, director of the coronary care unit at Leicester Royal Infirmary, said. The division between geriatric medicine (for over 65s) and acute general medicine (for under 65s) could account for the different care received by the two groups, he said.

At Leicester, where the division has been abolished, the average age of patients admitted to the coronary care unit has risen. "We may have to review the way we manage acute heart problems in the elderly," Dr Woods said.

A survey in 1991 found that one in five coronary care units had an upper age limit for admission between 65 and 75 and two in five had an upper age limit for treatment with clot-busting drugs. A report by the Royal College of Physicians last year said that patients should never be denied admission to hospital or appropriate treatment on the grounds of age alone.

Professor John Grimley Evans, professor of clinical gerontology at Oxford University and chief author of the college report, said there was an insidious belief that denying old people treatment could be justified because they had lower life expectancy.

Streptokinase, the commonest clot-busting drug, is given in a single infusion over one hour and costs £90 a patient. Alteplase, required in some cases, costs £500 a patient. More than 100,000 people a year in Britain have heart attacks, of whom a third reach hospital alive.

A heart attack is caused by a clot of blood becoming lodged in one of the coronary arteries supplying the muscle of the heart, blocking the artery and starving the heart muscle of oxygen. Clot-busting drugs dissolve the clot, allowing the blood to flow freely.

Dr Woods said that few patients over 74 had been included in the major trials of the drugs and that could account for their lower use in the age group. However, some experts say that they are likely to be more beneficial in the elderly than in the young.

## Big rise in claims for keyhole injury

By OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A SHARP increase in the number of patients suing surgeons over damage caused during keyhole surgery is reported by a medical defence organisation today.

The Medical Defence Union says the number of claims for damage to the bile duct occurring during keyhole surgery to remove gallstones rose from six to fifteen over a two-year period. Claims relating to the same operation using the conventional "open" technique rose from three to six.

The union, which provides medical indemnity for doctors in Britain and overseas, says 11 of the keyhole cases arose in the UK, most in private hospitals. The total UK figure is likely to be higher because, since 1990, the union has covered doctors only for their private work. NHS doctors are covered by their employers and do not necessarily disclose negligence cases.

When liability is proven,

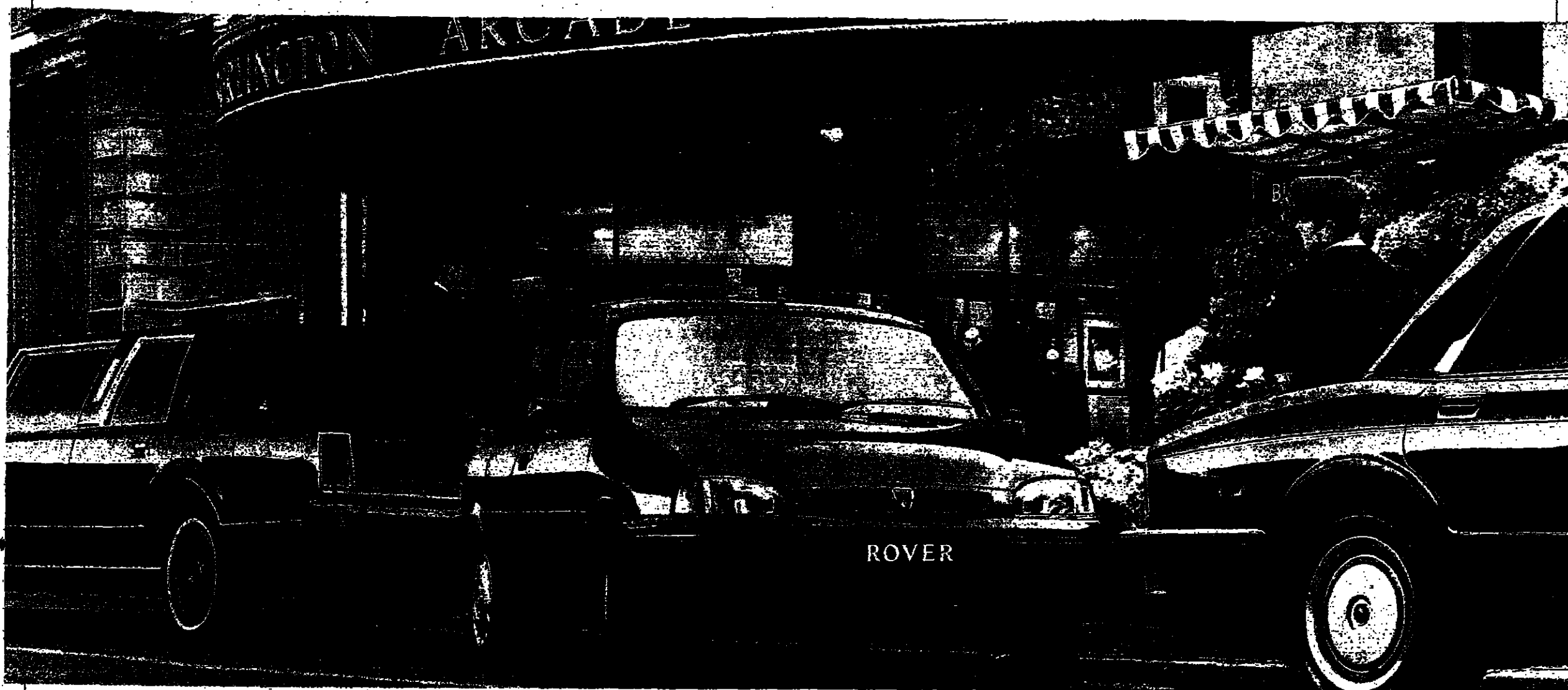
damages are substantial, the union says. In only six of the 21 claims was damage noted during the operation so that remedial surgery could be performed immediately.

A review of the cases, published in the union's journal, shows that although some problems arose while surgeons were learning the technique, experienced practitioners also made mistakes. In one case a surgeon who had made a video of the operation still could not see how the damage occurred when the video was replayed.

The dangers of keyhole surgery were explained in a Health Department report last year which said the techniques were being introduced too fast before there was clear evidence that they were better than conventional surgery. Training centres have been set up in London, Leeds and Dundee with £4 million of government funding to avoid further problems.



150



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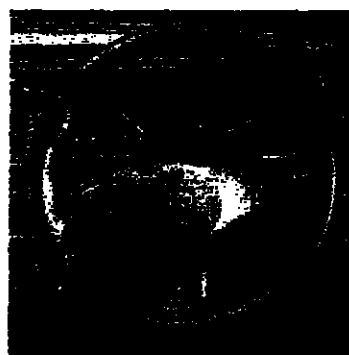
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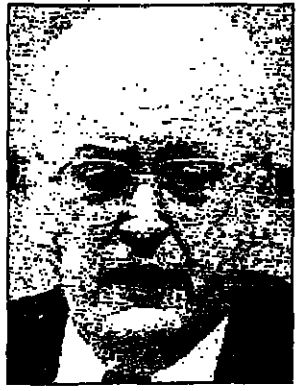


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# Uneasy Germans prepare for Dresden ceremony



Herzog: 'Youth bears no guilt for the past'

FROM ROGER BOYES  
IN BONN

A GRISLY dispute over bodies is overshadowing Germany's attempts to commemorate next month's 50th anniversary of the Dresden bombings.

Underpinning the argument is a deeper feeling — expressed by Alfred Dregger, the conservative politician — that the end of the war was a catastrophe for the Germans rather than a liberation from Nazi rule.

President Herzog is to make a speech on the anniversary of the last big British and American

bombing raids on February 13, but no amount of digging has unearthed exactly what Herr Herzog intends to say. In the past he has condemned the Dresden attacks as an example of "the brutalising of man in wartime".

Writing in yesterday's *Frankfurter Allgemeine*, Herr Herzog said that Germans had to learn the lessons of Nazi rule and pass them on to younger generations. "Youth bears no guilt for the past, but is responsible for ensuring that totalitarian and misanthropic tendencies are never given a chance again in Germany," he wrote. There is a fear that the German head of state —

who will also speak at Auschwitz this month — will make some kind of equation between German war victims and those who died in the concentration camps or as the result of systematic Nazi brutality.

"Auschwitz versus Dresden is the relativising slogan used by those who normally deny the mass killings in the gas chambers of Auschwitz-Birkenau," Ralph Giordano, the German-Jewish intellectual, wrote in a recently published open letter.

A question remains over how many people were killed in the Dresden bombing. Nazi propaganda inflated the figure to about

250,000. Well into the 1980s, historians were talking of up to 320,000 deaths, many of them unregistered refugees who were living in the city at the time of the Anglo-American raids. David Irving, the revisionist British historian, has also settled on a high figure: 135,000 dead.

Those figures have been used by neo-Nazi sympathisers to demonstrate Allied cruelty against Germans. But the most thorough research yet undertaken, by Friedrich Reichert, a German historian, suggests that Dresden was not in fact the site of a huge German martyrdom. In a book published to coincide with the anniversary, Dr

Reichert calculates that about 25,000 died in the raids between February and April 1945.

About 21,200 corpses were registered as buried in Dresden cemetery up to July 1945, including many who had been burnt beyond recognition in the fire storms that followed the bombing. A further 2,000 were buried elsewhere, according to Dr Reichert's research, and another 2,000 corpses were discovered among the rubble between 1945 and 1957.

Nonetheless, many Germans have come to regard the Dresden attack as a war crime of the first order. The city had no strategic

significance. About 12,000 buildings were destroyed, most historic monuments and 25 churches were flattened.

As united Germany has learnt to become more assertive in world politics, so it has to come to terms with its history. Right-wing Christian Democrats such as Herr Dregger have taken that as a licence to scratch at old wounds, notably the forced expulsion of millions of Germans from Eastern Europe. Herr Dregger told a newspaper last week that he was proud to have defended Germany until the last day of the war against "the onslaught of the Red Army".

## Plan for Auschwitz 50th anniversary opens old wounds

BY ADAM LEBOR, CENTRAL EUROPE CORRESPONDENT

EMBARRASSING rows and recriminations are overshadowing international plans to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary at the end of the month of the Soviet Army's liberation of Auschwitz.

Survivors of what became the most notorious Nazi death camp claim that the Polish Government has bungled plans to mark its liberation. Two million people died in the camp in the Second World War, most of them Jews.

In a separate dispute, Polish bishops have refused to join their German counterparts in issuing a joint statement to mark the anniversary. Protesters are also likely over the planned presence of the Presidents of Croatia and Yugoslavia, whose client armies in Bosnia have set up what many have described as concentration camps.

Maurice Goldstein, chairman of the International Auschwitz Committee, which represents the 10,000 living survivors of the camp, said that Polish mismanagement meant that few heads of state would attend. Although seven winners of the Nobel Peace Prize are reportedly to attend, he said they had not been officially invited and predicted that the event would be "chaotic".

"What I feel is that all these people [the organisers] are totally incompetent and actually it is too late to organise things correctly," Mr Goldstein said. He added that the office of President Walesa of Poland, which essentially took over organisation of the event last summer, had not consulted him before announcing its final plans.

The row is symptomatic of the still-poor state of Polish-Jewish relations, which have never really recovered from the Holocaust. Many Jews still claim that anti-Semitism is

widespread throughout Poland, even though the remaining Jewish community in the country is barely a few thousand strong.

The Polish bishops rejected the proposal for a joint statement because, they said, it might give the impression that Poles and Germans were equally responsible for the crimes of Auschwitz. "There was a desire to avoid the impression that Poles and Germans were jointly responsible for Auschwitz," Bishop Stanislaw Gadecki said on Polish television. He said a joint statement "would have led to the conclusion that it was the churches that were primarily responsible for the misfortune met by the Jews". The pres-

ence of President Tudjman of Croatia could also prove an embarrassment and draw protests from Jewish organisations.

Last year Dr Tudjman, a former resistance fighter, apologised to Jewish organisations for a passage in his book, *The Impenetrability of History*, that cast doubt on the figure of six million Jews killed in the Holocaust. Croatian and Israeli relations remain at a low level. Dr Tudjman's increasingly nationalist regime has also been attacked by Croatian Jews for reviving the symbols of the Croatian wartime Nazi puppet government of Ante Pavelic.

President Walesa will be host at the two-day gathering marking the anniversary on January 26 and 27. On the first day the Nobel prizewinners will meet in the southern Polish city of Krakow to complete the drafting of an appeal for world peace and tolerance that will be issued during the events. Heads of state (or their representatives) of the countries whose citizens suffered in the Nazi camps, or helped to liberate them, will speak.

On the second day there will be ceremonies at the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex itself, starting with a period of silence before the speeches and wreath-laying. The ceremony will end with a mass lighting of candles.

Among the other heads of state who have so far promised to attend are the Presidents of Austria, Belarusia, Germany, Latvia and Slovenia. Andrzej Zakrzewski, a Polish official, said the Presidents of Estonia, Lithuania, Hungary and Italy and the monarchs of Belgium, The Netherlands and Norway were also likely to attend. He said organisers were trying to reach all known survivors to invite them.

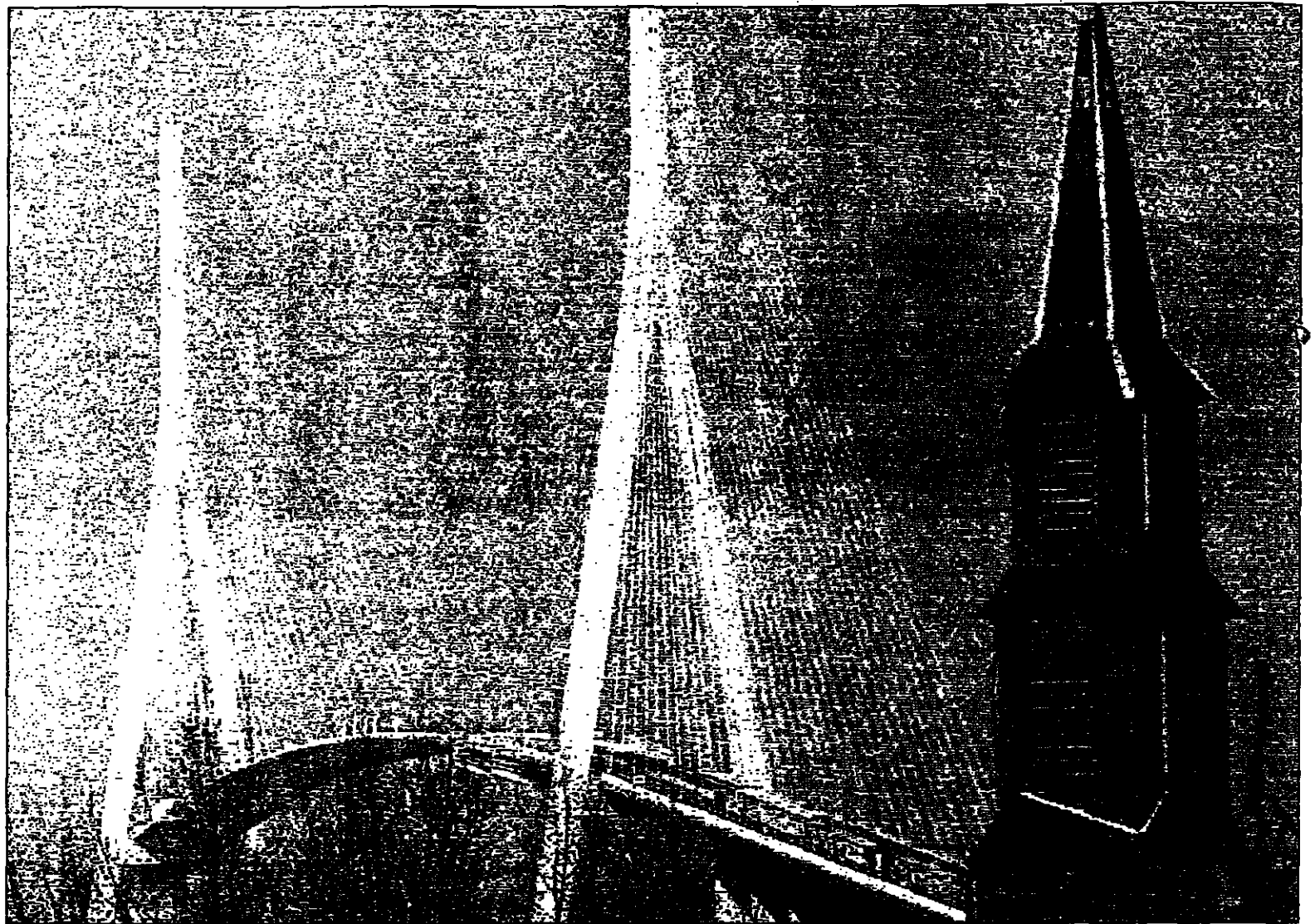
## US pubs remember Churchill

A CHAIN of pubs based on the life and times of Sir Winston Churchill is to be built in America, using tons of Cotswold stone from a Gloucestershire quarry.

The 40 "Winston" pubs are to be built in California, with the Farmington Stone Company near Cirencester supplying the stone. Martin Robins, a company spokesman, said: "They are hoping to open the first pub in June this year to tie in with the celebrations of Victory in Europe in 1945."

Mr Robins said the Americans had chosen Farmington Stone because the company supplied Cotswold stone for some of Blenheim Palace, where Churchill was born, and the American Museum in Bath, where Churchill made his first political speech in 1897.

"Winston Churchill's mother was American and there is a very strong Churchill Society in the United States," Mr Robins said. The export order, which will create up to 30 jobs, will be for walling stone and flagstones.



The Pont de Normandie soars over the Seine estuary at Honfleur, its 826ft pylons dwarfing the church of St Sauveur. Engineers spent the weekend crowding 80 heavy lorries

up and down the new 1.4-mile-long suspension bridge, which links Honfleur with Le Havre, before the official opening on January 20 (Charles Bremner writes). The

bridge took six years to build at a cost of two billion francs (£240 million). Its 932-yard central span is the world's longest for a shroud-type suspension bridge, and carries a

roadway 164ft above high tide. It replaces a 40-minute ferry ride or an hour around the Tancarville bridge. Seven thousand vehicles are expected to cross every day.

## French Right offered new contender

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

THE anti-Maastricht crusader and champion of the nationalist Right, Philippe de Villiers, last night injected a dash of provocation into the campaign for the French presidency by declaring himself a candidate for the job.

M de Villiers, 45, an independent force who has enjoyed a surge of popularity over the past year, holds only single-digit support in the polls for the presidency. However, he will pose a challenge for Jacques Chirac and Edouard Balladur, the conservatives who dominate the race.

The extreme Right already has its anti-European candidate in the person of Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the neo-fascist National Front, who enjoys about 7 per cent support. But M de Villiers is deemed a political pariah while M de Villiers is a respectable tribune of the protectionist feeling that now attracts a wide spectrum of the

electorate. His breakthrough came last June when the Euro-group he leads with Sir James Goldsmith won 12.6 per cent of the vote for the European Parliament.

M de Villiers's presence will ensure that Europe and anxiety over foreign competition remain in the forefront of the campaign. In the first election

round on April 23, he can be expected to draw votes mainly from M Chirac, the Gaullist leader, who is wooing the nationalist vote with his own Euro-sceptical stance.

However, M de Villiers also helps M Chirac by undermining the effort by the more centre-leaning M Balladur to cast himself as the only serious figurehead for the whole conservative field.

Polls over the weekend indicated that M Balladur was retaining his strong lead over M Chirac and all likely contenders from the beleaguered Socialist Party, but the shadow of scandal has emerged again to trouble his prospects. On Saturday, a judge placed Jean-Pierre Thomas, the treasurer of the centrist Republican Party, under investigation for alleged fraud in party finances. M Thomas immediately promised to bring down with him senior party figures. They include two of M

Balladur's Cabinet: François Léotard, the Minister of Defence, and Alain Madelin, the Business Minister.

Nicolas Sarkozy, the government spokesman and M Balladur's campaign manager, indicated yesterday that the Prime Minister would declare his candidature in about ten days time. Anticipating M de Villiers's candidature, M Sarkozy said that M Balladur did not share his protectionist thinking and he attacked the drive by M Chirac and M de Villiers to present themselves as representatives of the people against the technocrats who both men say have "hijacked" France.

LI Green candidate: France's tiny and divided environmental movement announced yesterday a third rival candidate for the presidential election. Antoine Waechter, 46, said he would stand for his splinter group, the Independent Ecologist Movement. (Reuters)



De Villiers: nationalist opponent of Maastricht

## 'Clean hands' party wants judge to lead

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

PRESSURE increased yesterday for Judge Antonio Di Pietro to enter politics with the disclosure that his supporters have founded a political movement named after his anti-bribery investigation.

Supporters of the new *Mani Pulite* (clean hands) party hope to persuade the magistrate to put himself forward as Italy's next prime minister, according to *La Repubblica*.

President Scalfaro has summoned Silvio Berlusconi, the caretaker Prime Minister, to the Quirinal Palace today to discuss a solution to Italy's

political crisis. Signor Scalfaro is consulting other political leaders over naming a prime minister-designate in order to form a new government to replace Signor Berlusconi's coalition that collapsed last month.

There had been increasingly speculation that Judge Di Pietro, 42, intended to enter politics since he resigned last month after formally placing Signor Berlusconi under investigation on suspicion of bribing tax inspectors investigating his Fininvest holding company.

## Ciller bows to West's human rights critics

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

TANSU CILLER, the Turkish Prime Minister, tacitly acknowledged Western criticism of her country's performance on human rights by promising to remove restrictions on individual freedoms built into the 1982 constitution.

Mrs Ciller promised at the weekend to amend the notorious article 14 which limits inalienable freedoms to those which do not "violate the indivisible integrity of the state". It is the broad interpretation of this clause which has led to the imprisonment of hundreds of prisoners of con-

science in Turkey, mainly for expressing sympathy with the Kurdish cause. Only last month, the state security court passed sentences of up to 15 years on eight Kurdish nationalist MPs. That trial was condemned by the American Congress and led to the European Parliament suspending relations with Turkish deputies.

The Prime Minister's promise will not translate easily into change. Her coalition holds only 231 of the 450 seats, short of the 300 needed to amend the constitution.

## Police kill Egyptian militants

Cairo: Egyptian police shot dead five suspected Muslim militants after being fired on when they went to arrest the men on the outskirts of Cairo yesterday, officials said.

Police said some of the men had recently returned from abroad to take part in acts of violence while others were believed to have been involved in attacks against the police in the southern province of Minya.

The Gamaa al-Islamiya (Islamic Group), Egypt's largest militant organisation, killed 12 people, including nine policemen, in Minya in the first two days of this year. The group is fighting to overthrow the government of President Mubarak and set up a strict Muslim state. (Reuters)

## Rights ruling

New York: The US Supreme Court is to rule whether gay groups have a constitutional right to take part in Boston's St Patrick's Day parade, after a lower court stopped a ban by the organisers.

## Einstein sale

Portsmouth: Albert Einstein's pipe and a 19th century spinning top game the physicist played with as a child were sold for \$20,000 (£12,800) at an auction in this town in New Hampshire. (Reuters)

## Mouse trap

Stockholm: A mouse forced a flight from Sweden to New York to be cancelled when it disappeared inside the airliner after being spotted on board during the outward journey from America. (AFP)

## Riches in Heaven

JESUS SAID Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth, where moths and rust destroy and robbers break in and steal. Instead, store up riches for yourselves in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and robbers cannot break in and steal. For your heart will always be where your riches are.

Matthew ch. 6 v 19-21

This is one of a series of passages from the Good News Bible to appear in this newspaper sponsored by the Fishers of Men Trust.

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## Disney chief pockets the Lion's share

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

MICHAEL EISNER, the workaholic Walt Disney Company chairman, earned a \$7.3 million (£4.7 million) bonus last year despite a month off work to have a quadruple heart bypass operation and the continuing lacklustre performance of Disneyland Paris, formerly Euro Disney.

The bonus, added to a \$750,000 salary and shares worth \$2.6 million, makes Mr Eisner one of America's highest-paid executives. His total earnings of \$10.7 million last year reflect the company's record overall profits of \$1.1 billion, much

of which was accounted for by *The Lion King*, the international box-office hit.

Ironically, the animated film was steered through production by Jeffrey Katzenberg, the former Disney studio chief who resigned last year to found a new studio with Steven Spielberg, the Oscar-winning director. He had earlier been denied promotion by Mr Eisner.

Mr Katzenberg had expected to take Frank Wells's place as company president after Wells's death in an accident last April. Instead the post was filled by

Sidney Poitier, the black actor and director, in an honorary capacity.

Mr Eisner received no bonus in 1993 because of Euro Disney's financial woes. He did not, however, suffer financially, since he cashed in company shares worth \$203 million.

While Mr Eisner's earnings have become an object of regular public astonishment, his shareholders have yet to complain. A \$1,000 investment in Disney at the time he took control in 1984 is now worth \$11,731.

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# Yeltsin allies start to edge away from support for war

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

SOME of President Yeltsin's most loyal and trusted supporters in government have been making subtle but clear moves to distance themselves from the fallout of the disastrous month-long military operation in Chechnya.

In a sign that could point to a split in the Government between hawks and doves over the policy towards the breakaway republic, key figures, including senior ministers, are voicing second thoughts about the wisdom of using force in Chechnya.

The Kremlin has been dismayed further by the death in Grozny on Saturday of Major-General Viktor Vorobyov, commander of a special Russian Interior Ministry task force. General Vorobyov, the first senior officer killed in Chechnya since Russian troops moved in on December 11, died when a mortar shell exploded next to him as he was transferring his headquarters nearer the city centre.

The main battle lines in Russian politics between the supporters and opponents of the Chechen action are now well established. The so-called "party of war" includes General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, Viktor Yerin, the Interior Minister, Sergei Stepanin, head of counter-intelligence, Andrei Kozlov, the Foreign Minister, Nikolai

Yegorov, the Nationalities Minister, and Oleg Lobov, head of the Presidential Security Council.

Arrayed against them is a diverse coalition of democrats, communists, and generals, including Yegor Gaidar, the former reformist Prime Minister, Grigori Yavlinsky, head of the liberal Yabloko party, Gennadi Zyuganov, the communist leader, Colonel-General Boris Grumov, Deputy Defence Minister, and Lieutenant-General Aleksandr Lebed, the popular head of the 14th Army.

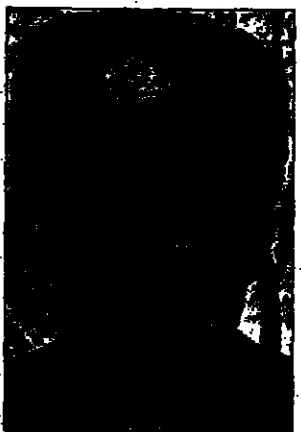
However, a third force also appears to be emerging of senior figures in the Govern-

ment who may have backed the operation but who are now hedging their bets. Foremost among these possible dissenters is Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, who deliberately has taken a back seat during the Chechen conflict, to the extent of continuing an official trip to India last month despite the launch by his Government of the Chechnya operation.

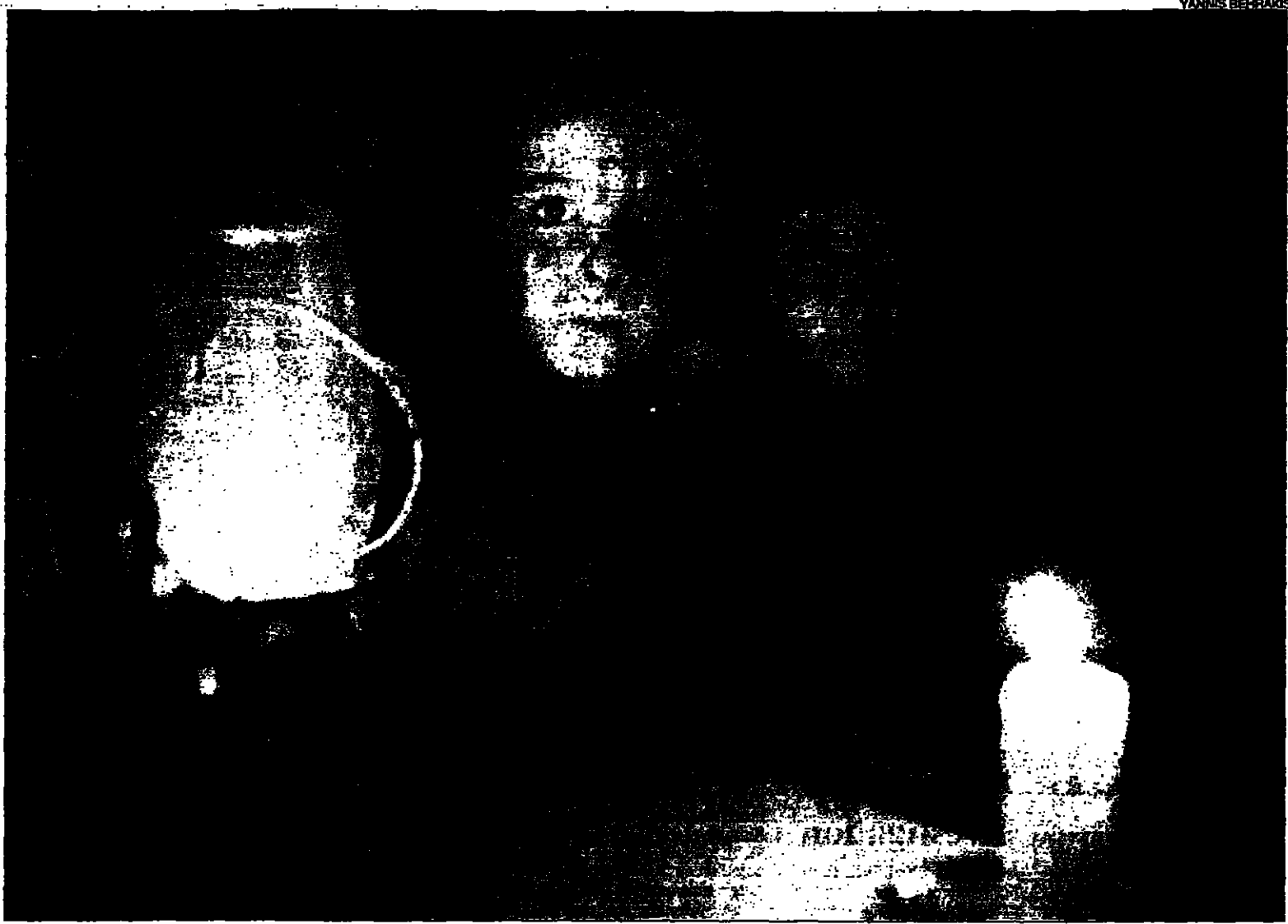
On Friday it emerged that Mr Chernomyrdin has agreed for the first time to become directly involved in the conflict, although his role will be overseeing the return of Chechen refugees, Russia's adherence to human rights and the huge postwar reconstruction programme planned for the republic after the fighting has stopped.

"We will do our best," said the Prime Minister, who promised that his administration would transport displaced people back to their homes and repair any damages. "The Government is aware that there is no time to lose in tackling this task, so we are going to start carrying it out immediately. The Government will provide as much money as is needed."

The increasing cost of the war in Chechnya, which threatens to undermine the economy, could also deepen the cabinet rift. President



Vorobyov killed while moving headquarters



Children in a Grozny shelter listen to a fierce artillery and rocket attack on the city centre by advancing Russian troops at the weekend

Yeltsin's economics chiefs, Yevgeny Yasin, the Economics Minister, and Vladimir Panskov, the Finance Minister, have both said publicly that this year's reform programme will be jeopardised by a long and costly war.

Even some of the most strident supporters of military

intervention a month ago are starting to run for cover.

Sergei Shakhrai, the Deputy Prime Minister, advocated returning Chechnya to Russian sovereignty by force. However, in two recent interviews he has sought to deflect the blame for the present fiasco to the Russian military, while insist-

ing that only a political solution is possible.

One of the most intriguing responses to the operation in Chechnya has come from Yuri Luzhkov, the powerful Mayor of Moscow, who many pundits predict is planning to run for the presidency in the elections planned for next

year. Although in the past the Moscow boss has been a loyal supporter of President Yeltsin,

this time his silence over Chechnya has been deafening. Mr Luzhkov, who previously championed causes well beyond the capital's city limits — such as supporting the Serbs in Bosnia and Russia's

claims to the Crimea — has not said anything to support the present offensive.

Privately, even some of President Yeltsin's most loyal supporters fear that the Russian leader's credibility has been irrevocably damaged by the Chechen affair, whatever the outcome of the fighting.

## Kohl critical of Kremlin but resists sanctions call

BY ROGER BOYES IN BONN AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

GERMANY yesterday sharpened its criticism of Russian military action in Chechnya and warned Moscow that the "unparalleled brutality" could endanger co-operation with the West. The warning came as Western and Muslim nations stepped up their criticism of the Russian onslaught and threatened sanctions against Moscow.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, is still "weighing any such talk... We will achieve nothing at the moment with threats," the German leader said. "We must not give the impression that the West is interested in the dissolution of the Russian Federation."

Volker Rühe, the Defence Minister, struck a significantly tougher pose. In an interview with *Der Spiegel* to be published today, he says: "How far does this unparalleled brutality in dealing with a domestic problem change Russia's status as a partner for the West? Further reforms and

international co-operation are in danger."

The Bonn Cabinet agrees that there should be no support for Chechen independence. Ministers agree that President Yeltsin has to be politically protected since the alternative would threaten European stability. Germany's line is that "disproportionate force" is being used by the President, but that the war against separatists is inevitable. Russia brags itself for a sharp confrontation on Thursday over Chechnya with 51 other members of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, backed off the idea of sending an OSCE observer team to Grozny since this would require a Russian invitation.

There are also moves to suspend Russia's planned membership of the Council of Europe, the Strasbourg-based organisation which sets strict standards of observance of

democratic and human rights for its members.

The Clinton Administration came under fire for its continued support of President Yeltsin yesterday, with Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's former national security adviser, claiming "the Administration shames America by not speaking up" against the Russian military's bloody assaults on Chechnya. Chechnya "could become the graveyard of America's moral reputation", Mr Brzezinski warned.

Vice-President Al Gore defended the Administration by arguing that he, President Clinton and Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, had all contacted their Russian counterparts in the past few days to press for an immediate end to the killing of civilians.

Fifty-one Muslim countries in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference demanded a halt to the attacks on Grozny, and accused Russia of breaking international law by "indiscriminate use of force against civilian centres". They urged Moscow to open a "serious dialogue" with the Chechen leadership.

Western countries are looking at what sanctions they could invoke against Moscow that would not weaken democratic forces in Russia. Denmark has suspended its defence co-operation agreement. Hans Haacklerup, the Defence Minister, said, pointing out that the co-operation was restricted "to teaching them about how to run defence forces in a democracy".

The first response of Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, to the crisis was that economic sanctions were out of the question and that President Yeltsin was still Germany's most reliable partner.

The Chechen conflict has, in the eyes of Kal of the *Baltimore Sun*, revealed Russia's true identity

## Rose meets Serb commander in effort to maintain truce

FROM REUTERS IN SARAJEVO

THE United Nations commander in Bosnia yesterday held hurriedly-arranged talks in his continuing efforts to overcome Serb objections to the way the ceasefire is to be implemented.

The meeting between Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose and General Ratko Mladic, the Serb commander, near Sarajevo, was held as negotiations on finalising details of the truce have stumbled over a row about a demilitarised zone near the Bosnian capital.

Later, General Mladic said he wanted "black and white" assurances that Muslim troops had left the zone before he would allow the reopening of key routes into the city.

The four-month ceasefire, which took effect on January 1 after a visit to Bosnia by

Jimmy Carter, the former US President, is intended to pave the way for talks on a political settlement of the 33-month-old war. But Bosnian Croats made clear yesterday that they were ready to fight on if negotiations did not start before the truce expires.

Last month the Croats captured a large part of the Livno valley in the southwest and forced 5,000 Serb civilians to flee. The Serbs retaliated by shelling the area, including an attack on Saturday in violation of the ceasefire.

The UN says, however, that the truce is generally holding, with the exception of the northwestern Bihać enclave where Serbs and Muslims have not signed the agreement. Elsewhere in Bosnia there were more than 300 artillery explosions and

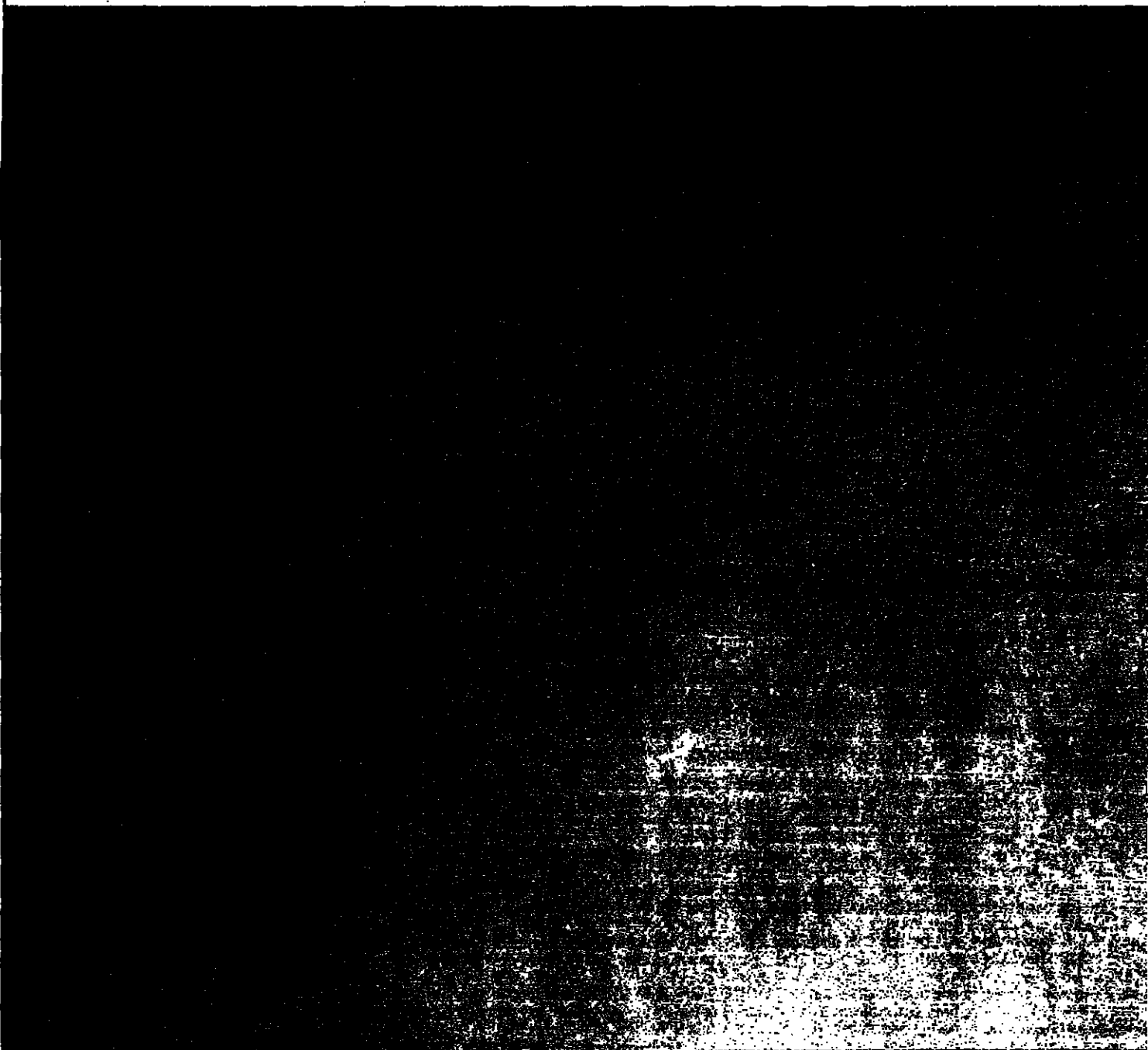
bursts of machinegun fire in the past 24 hours, but the UN reported only eight violations as it includes shelling and shooting only when it can confirm they are attacks by one side on another.

A UN spokesman said General Rose might have talks with Bosnian Government military officials after meeting General Mladic.

Peacekeepers were yesterday checking the Mount Igman demilitarised zone and, if they found that Bosnian soldiers had withdrawn, were intending to take Government and Bosnian Serb officers on a joint inspection of the zone today.

Sarajevo airport was reopened to humanitarian aid flights a day after they were halted when two UN relief planes were hit by gunfire.

HP's new LaserJet printers are so fast, they're already pages ahead.









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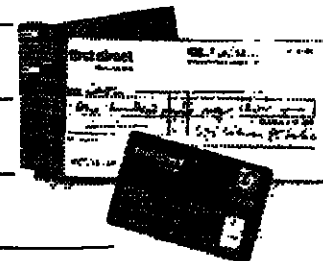
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THE WEEK  
AHEAD

## ■ VISUAL ART

Life before Pop: magazine illustrations, private drawings and commercial shop windows from Andy Warhol  
OPEN: Now  
REVIEW: Tomorrow



## ■ MUSICALS

Plenty of tapping and stomping as the music of Fats Waller comes to life in a new production of *Ain't Misbehavin'*  
OPENS: Tonight  
REVIEW: Wednesday



## ■ MUSIC

Mark Elder at the helm for an unusual CBSO programme of Ravel, Delius and Puccini at Symphony Hall  
CONCERT: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday



## ■ CINEMA

Patrice Chéreau directs a starry cast in *La Reine Margot*: 16th-century French religious wars brought to the screen  
OPENS: Friday  
REVIEW: Thursday

# Viennese feast of triumphant music-making

The Viennese need little excuse to remind the world of their musical heritage. Last Friday they found a big excuse: the 125th anniversary of the first concert in the Musikverein. So, in Theophil Hansen's magnificent "Golden Hall", Riccardo Muti and the Vienna Philharmonic re-created the exact programme, at the precise hour (11am) of that momentous inauguration.

This time a Bundespräsident rather than a Kaiser und König led the celebrations. But otherwise this was an authentic reproduction of the curious hotchpotch served up on that January morning in 1870. First, no fewer than five snippets paid brief homage to the musical gods as they were perceived in mid-19th century Vienna: Beethoven, Haydn, Bach, Mozart and Schubert. Not much has changed in 125 years, a cynic might conclude.

In the second half, however, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony brought substance to proceedings. Muti's fiery interpretation, ten times more passionate than the Beethoven he served up in his Philadelphia years, inspired the Vienna Philharmonic to play like men infused with the spirit of their own inheritance. Which was precisely what this occasion was all about.

The annual televising of the New Year's Day Concert has made the Musikverein the most famous concert hall in the world. But its unsurpassable acoustic remains the prime reason for its musical pre-eminence. "Until I conducted here for the first time in 1897," wrote Bruno Walter, "I had not known that music could be so beautiful."

The acoustical wonder is compounded by the mystery of how that warm, mellow resonance is achieved. "Every season we are visited by acoustical firms from around the world, particularly Japan," says a Musikverein spokesman. "They take exact measurements, do complex tests, note the

The most famous concert hall in the world celebrates an important birthday.  
**Richard Morrison**  
puts on a party hat

materials used — and still cannot reproduce anything quite like it." The shoebox shape, suspended ceiling, hollow platform and intimate size (more like a large salon than a modern concert hall) are clearly important factors. But, as with a Stradivarius violin, genius ultimately defies analysis.

Perhaps the Musikverein's aura has less to do with wood and plaster than with the spirit of its music-making. It was built, and is still owned, by the 183-year-old Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Wien, a music society linked with the most celebrated names in Austro-Germanic culture. Its archives include the autograph scores of Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony, Schubert's "Great C Major" Symphony, Brahms's Requiem, Mahler's Fourth Symphony... and 30,000 other priceless manuscripts from Mozart and Haydn to Webern. No other concert hall, and few national libraries, can boast such riches, and the autograph scores are still consulted. Only a few years ago Claudio Abbado, recording the "Great C Major", added four extra bars after examining the Musikverein's manuscript.

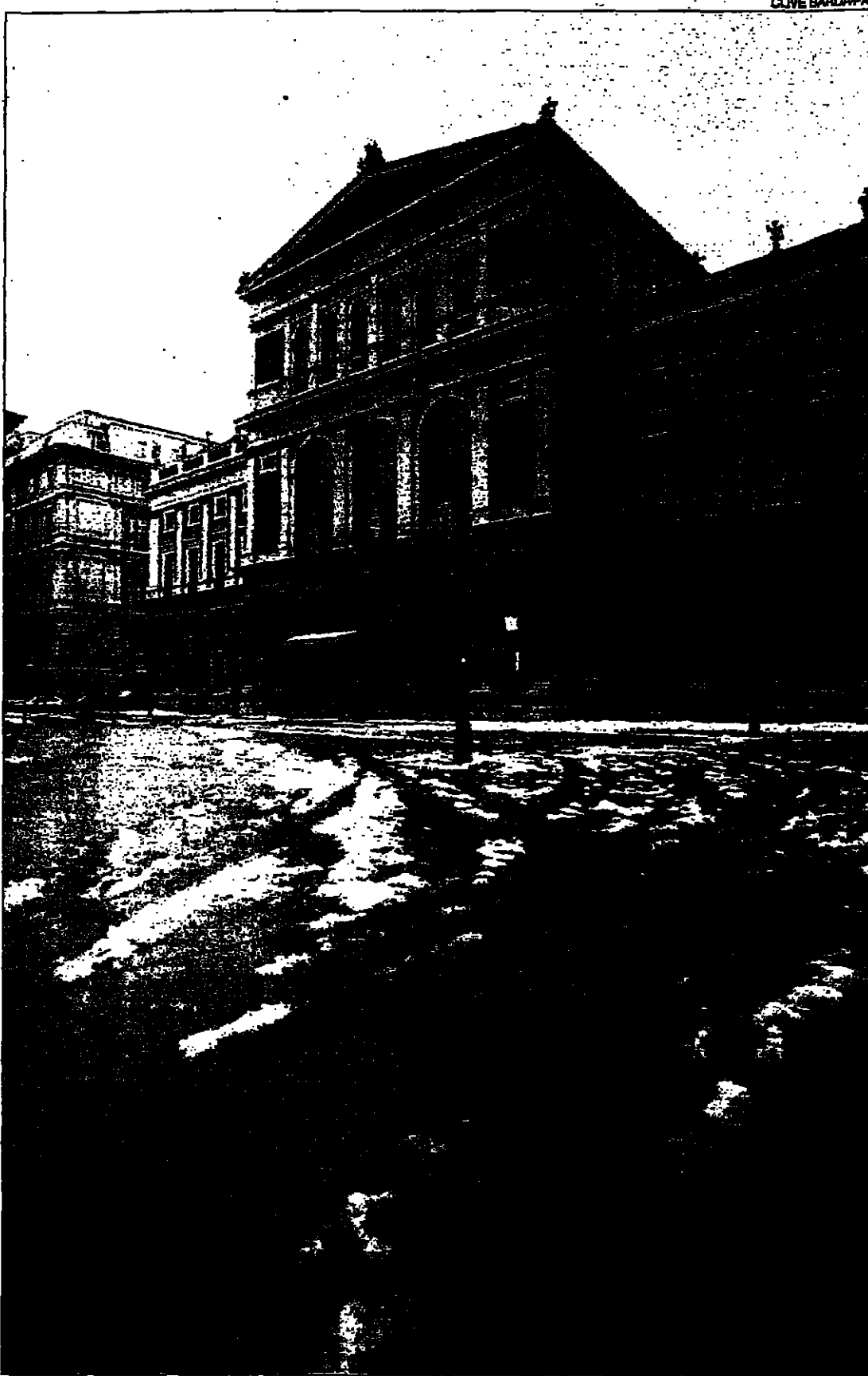
The relationship between the Musikverein and its most famous tenant, the Vienna Philharmonic, would reward study by those struggling with the problem of halls and orchestras in London. In Vienna, hall and orchestra remain separate entities; in fact the Philharmonic

promotes only about 25 of the 520 concerts in the Musikverein each year. What of the other 500? Here, the present Musikverein boss, Thomas Angerer, has tried to counter the notion that Vienna has inordinately conservative tastes. He can already claim that a quarter of all Musikverein concerts now include contemporary music.

He also rebuts the suggestion that the Musikverein is strictly for the rich — though those sitting among the morning-suited patrons on Friday might feel otherwise. Angerer points to the large area at the back of the hall where, no matter how hushed the conductor, 300 standing places are always available at around £3 each. "Half the price of a cinema ticket," he notes. Even so, box office and sponsorship must cover 92 per cent of the Musikverein's costs, and this accounts for the bank-breaking prices of the 1,700 seats.

But if the cost of a seat at the Musikverein is high — upwards of £50 for Vienna Philharmonic concerts — so are its rewards. You would have to be particularly insensitive to atmosphere not to imagine the great figures who once triumphed within these walls. Here is Bruckner inaugurating the hall's first organ; Brahms supervising his premieres; Schoenberg causing a celebrated riot; Furtwängler escaping across a rooftop to avoid Communist demonstrators in 1947.

With native gloom, some Viennese critics are warning of possible damage to the Musikverein's acoustic when the hall's management installs air-conditioning this year. That's nonsense, of course. There is more chance of Westminster Abbey being painted pillar-box red than of the Viennese allowing anything to harm the Musikverein. Given reasonable luck, it will still be the place of ultimate pilgrimage for music-lovers 125 years hence.



The annual televising of the New Year's Day Concert has made the Musikverein the most famous concert hall in the world. But its unsurpassable acoustic is the reason for its musical pre-eminence.

## Webb's feats splashed

FRESH from his triumph at the London Café Royal's Green Room, American songwriter Jimmy Webb sees his book, *Tunesmith: A Guide to the Art of Songwriting*, published by Hyperion, in the spring. The volume is said to combine practical advice, constructive ideas and personal anecdotes from the man who made millions from the likes of "Up, Up, and Away", "MacArthur Park", "Wichita Lineman" and "Little Green Apples" before reaching the age of 25.

He may have made his name with the Royal Shakespeare Company, but Ben Kingsley is now firmly part of what he calls "the international film community". First he has a part in *Joseph*, one of several biblical films being made by Turner Broadcasting in America, opposite Paul Mercurio (from *Strictly Ballroom*). Then, next summer, he joins forces with Forest Whitaker in *Species*. Directed by Roger Donaldson, this is a special-effects thriller about a scientist who creates a woman too beautiful to be allowed to live. But does he not miss the lure of the stage, the chance to give his Solness, his Pier Gynt, his Lear? "Gandhi was my Lear," Kingsley says, and adds: "I can always play Lear next year or the year after. If I miss a *Schindler's List*, I don't get another chance."

BRITISH success stories Dina Carroll and Ewan will join Carolee Anderson, Aswad, veteran disco diva Thelma Houston and others in performing at the second International Dance Awards, to be held at the Piccadilly Theatre in London on January 22. Unusually for such events, consumers themselves have been invited to vote in the 15 different categories, and more than 20,000 completed forms have been returned by members of the public. Dance music constituted half of the British Top 40 in 1994.

Nicola Pagett, an actress absent for far too long from the London stage, will join Richard Wilson and John Alderton in the forthcoming Lyttelton Theatre revival of the National of Joe Orton's 1967 play, *What the Butler Saw*. Pagett will play the nymphomaniac wife performed, in the most recent West End production of the play, by Sheila Gish.

AMERICA'S National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences has announced that five artists are to be honoured with Lifetime Achievement Awards at this year's Grammy Awards, to be held at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on March 1: Barbara Streisand, Peggy Lee and Curtis Mayfield, as well as the late Patsy Cline and Henry Mancini, are the talents to be saluted.

LONDON THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** on classic Strindberg performed by young actors, plus Virginia Woolf's novel adapted

## Youthful energy is not enough

NORTHERN Light is a touring company whose performers are recent graduates from drama school and whose ambition, the programme tells us, is to "put on new translations of classic European drama as well as to introduce plays which have not previously been translated into English". Of those aims the second strikes me as more likely to prove rewarding.

The problem here is not Eivor Martinus's translation

**Lady Julie**  
Finborough, SW10

of Strindberg, which seems perfectly aptable in its casual colloquial way: "you bastard", "oh bullshit", and, where a more conventional version might be "a lousy place where it always rains", "Lake Como's a piss-hole". Nor is the trouble the more modest updating of the costumes that occurs on

Julia Smith's plain kitchen set. It is that youthful energy and élan are not enough to bring to life roles that have taxed some of our finest players.

Strindberg's preface, itself a key document in the history of drama, indicates what he wanted. Neither Julie, the troubled aristocrat, nor Jean, the valet who seduces and destroys her, is meant to be a character in the old, fixed sense. They are torn and divided, contradictory and unstable: "conglomerations from various stages of culture, past and present, walking scrap-books, shreds of human lives, tatters torn from former fancy dresses that are now old rags, hodgepodge just like the human soul."

That suggests a complexity and, in its way, a depth difficult for inexperienced performers to achieve. Certainly, it is not enough to smother at feelings; the actors must inhabit the emotions, inconsistent and fluctuating though they may be, or, more precisely, they must let those emotions inhabit them. Both Beata Kinsley and Nigel Barrett, Northern Light's Julie and Jean, are performers of promise; but they work too strenuously to accomplish too little.

Barrett exudes cool confidence, Kinsley an edgy intensity. That is fine as far it goes, but in each case something is missing. Where are Jean's insecurity, resentment, petty vindictiveness and darkness of soul? The impression Barrett gives is more of an aspiring student activist than a thwart-



Beata Kinsley as Julie, with Nigel Barrett's Jean

ed man battling against his own servile impulses. Where is Julie's blend of vulnerability and bitterness? Kinsley puts plenty of brio into the famous lines about wanting to eat the heart of the lucky who decapitates her greenfinch, but her rage lacks density. Why the unfamiliar title for so well-known a play? My Scandinavian contacts tell me that *Froken Julie* is best translated nowadays as *Miss Julie*. However, Martinus argues in the programme that in the late 19th century, when the play was written, *froken* had posher connotations — and who am I to quarrel with her? It would, however, help if Kinsley had more instinctive arrogance. As it is, the class war at the play's centre is another of its aspects that could go for more.

THERE is a point in Virginia Woolf's original where Mr Ramsay, irked by his wife's insistence on a trip to the local lighthouse, lets slip a mild curseword. And what is the good lady's reaction? She feels he has, in her author's words, rent the thin veils of civilisation so wantonly, so brutally, and outraged human decency so horribly that, "dazed and blotted, she bent her head as if to let the peat of jagged hail, the clench of dirty water, bespatter her unreluctant."

That is one of many passages that cause problems for Empty Space, the touring company that has been brave, or foolhardy, enough to put *To the Lighthouse* on the stage.

Their solution is for one of their number to pick up a bucket in which there are a few crumpled-up bits of paper and dump them over the head of Victoria Plum's Mrs Ramsay, who does her understandably inadequate best to look as if she has just been bitten by a doodlebug. Then the rest of the four-person cast chant something not very coherent about hedges and leaves; and the action, or perhaps I mean inaction, moves on.

It is not a very effective moment — but then, what should we expect? *To the Lighthouse* is as wistfully ruminative a book as English literature has produced. It is full of semicolons with long, quivering sentences between them. There are a lot of characters, and most of them spend their time thinking very intricately, feeling very earnestly and speaking very little. If you had to pick a novel harder for a four-person cast to bring to theatrical life, you

## Foggy and missed

To the Lighthouse  
Lyric Studio, W6

would have to scour the world for a better candidate.

Andrew Holmes's gallant production must at times bewilder those who have not read the book. I suppose it is clear that Pete Cranmer's Ramsay is a rather chilling philosopher much preoccupied with his place in the

history of ideas, and that his wife is devoted to him and their many children; but her charisma and urge to control other people are less apparent. Nor do we learn as much as we might about Tansley, Briscoe, Banks, Doyle and the novel's supporting voices.

Steph Brazzwell and Jim Pyke join Plum and Cranmer in swapping roles, and all of them occasionally burst into song, sometimes at oddly downbeat moments. All in all, there is not much chance of our getting Woolf's and, presumably, Empty Space's point, which is that life is an aimless flux justified by its more intense moments: "The little daily miracles, illuminations, matches struck unexpectedly in the dark." Here, the illuminations are dim and, sadly, the matches fizzle.

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Is removing phosphates from sewage a good idea? □ Drinking a toast to ancient armies □ A new approach to defeating parasitic disease



IN 1993, visitors to Stratford-upon-Avon were treated to a sight that never bothered the Bard. The river suffered an algal "bloom", and was smothered for a while in a pungent and unhealthy foam made up of blue-green algae.

Small wonder, some might say. At last week's conference of the Institute of British Geographers, Dr Ian Foster of Coventry University estimated that the dry-weather flow of the Avon is 30 per cent effluent from five upstream sewage works.

Now an extensive and expensive programme of improvement has begun, to add a third stage to the works to remove phosphates from the effluent. But are they really responsible? Dr Foster admits he is not convinced, and with the support of the National Rivers Authority has started a year-long programme of research to try to identify the sources of phosphate.

He suspects that phosphates from fertilisers may be equally important. Research at the Murrumbidgee River in New South

## Bloom that is not fresh

Wales has suggested that phosphates from fertiliser trapped in sediments at the bottom of the river can be released in warm, dry conditions. The oxygen in the sediments is depleted and the phosphates are liberated.

The research programme aims to find out whether this also happens in the Avon.

If it is the sediments and not the sewage plants that are the major

sources, then a rethink would appear in order. This is unlikely, because the Avon has been given "sensitive area" status under the European Union's urban waste

water directive, which will impose tougher standards on the release of both nitrates and phosphates from sewage works — even if they are not responsible.

A report just published in The Netherlands suggests that phosphates are not the only culprits. Contributions are also made by heavy metals, oils, the surfactants used in detergents and insecticides in the water.

according to research carried out by the Dutch Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO) and the universities of Alicante and Savoy.



SCIENCE BRIEFING

Nigel Hawkes

This has shown that fresh water can assimilate ten times more phosphates than assumed, so long as no metals, insecticides or surfactants are present. These contaminants attack the animal plankton, reducing the system's ability to soak up phosphates, and leading to algal blooms.

A separate project by the Dutch and the University of Venice has concluded that the algae in the Venetian lagoon are not solely the result of nitrates and phosphates from sewage.

More controversially, the research has concluded that phosphate-free detergents are not as green as they have been painted. Martin Scholten of TNO, the head of the phosphate project, says that these powders need more surfactants to replace the cleansing power of the phosphates. It is these agents which damage the animal plankton.

TNO asserts, therefore, that there is at present no scientific basis for removing phosphate detergents from the market. Whether removing phosphates from sewage is equally misguided, time will tell. But it would be nice to know before we start.

## Cheers



THE Royal Navy recently announced that wine as well as beer will be made available to ratings — on board Her Majesty's ships. They have to pay for it — the free rum ration was, alas, abolished in 1970 — and the provision of Blue Nun by the NAAFI is intended to appeal to the Wrens who now serve at sea.

Dishing out drinks to serving men is a custom just about as old as war, to judge by archaeological findings from a Mesopotamian site in western Iran. These show that wine and beer were being issued to members of the Mesopotamian army 5,500 years ago, about the same time as the invention of writing.

The evidence comes from a site at Godin Tepe, an outpost inhabited between about 3500 BC and 3100 BC at a key spot on the trade route that ran from the Mediterranean to China. Virginia Badler, of the University of Toronto, directed

excavations at the site and found traces of both beer and wine inside jars discovered there.

One large two-handled jar had small traces of calcium oxalate, a bitter sediment produced during the brewing of beer from barley. Between the handles was a small hole that would have allowed the escape of gases produced during fermentation. The inside of another large jar at the same site shows traces of tartaric acid, found in wine.

## Once bitten

FRENCH researchers have come up with a new approach for treating the parasitic disease Leishmaniasis, transmitted by the bite

of the sand fly. In tropical and subtropical Africa, Asia and Latin America the disease infects about half a million people a year. The more severe forms kill about 70 per cent of those infected.

A team led by Dr Jean-Jacques Toulmé, of the French National

Institute for Health and Medical Research, has now applied "antisense" technology to deal with the parasite. Normally, the parasite is attacked by macrophage cells whose job it is to overwhelm and digest it. But, in fact, the parasites survive and start multiplying until they cause the macrophage cells to explode.

Antisense technology involves inserting a small stretch of synthetic DNA that interferes with the message being conveyed by the organism's own DNA. The process by which the DNA is turned into protein is stopped when these short sections bind to the intermediary, messenger RNA.

In the case of the Leishmania parasite, the antisense gene used simply turns off all the parasite's genes, preventing it from multiplying. In laboratory tests, mouse macrophages were infected by the parasite and then treated with the antisense gene. After 24 hours, a third of the macrophage cells were either clear of parasites or contained only their corpses.

The same strategy might be eventually used for parasites responsible for sleeping sickness, Chagas disease, or even malaria.

# The ice mother of mankind



Has Maureen Raymo, left, found the origin of climate in Tibet? Martin Ince reports

Traders, travellers, soldiers and scientists have always known that Tibet is a place of mystery. But even its most dedicated enthusiasts would have hesitated, until now, to hold it responsible for the origin of the human race.

For Maureen Raymo, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the connection between the five-kilometre-high Tibetan plateau, the world's largest mountain area, and the development of *Homo sapiens* is direct, even if key links in the chain have yet to be made firm.

According to a *Horizon* television programme tonight on her research, the presence of the Tibetan highlands caused the ice ages which have dominated the Earth's recent geological history — and produced the climates that allowed human life to emerge.

Dr Raymo is an assistant lecturer in earth, atmospheric and planetary sciences at MIT, still junior enough to have trouble getting her research funded. Her interest in climate developed from her work in the deep oceans; as a participant in the Ocean Drilling Programme, an international research venture that uses oil-drilling technology to obtain long cores of sediment from the ocean floor.

Dr Raymo was struck by the abrupt shift from non-glacial to glacial material that the cores reveal. With a colleague, Bill Ruddiman, of the University of Virginia, she began to wonder why such sudden changes had taken place.

The initial answer comes from the movement of continents on the surface of the Earth over millions of years. For example, the vast land mass of India drifted steadily



The high Tibetan plateau: its effect on the Earth's climate could have created the dry grasslands of Africa on which mankind first walked.

northwards until it hit the Asian continent, perhaps 40 million years ago. The result was a collision which threw up the Tibetan plateau and, at the point of maximum impact, the eight kilometre-high mountains of the Himalayas, including Everest.

Scientists have long known that big mountain ranges affect the climate by diverting the even flow of the winds and creating large, cool areas. It has, however, been accepted that a more important cause of climate change has been long-term changes in the amount of solar radiation received by the Earth. One problem is that nobody really knows just how old the Tibetan plateau and the Himalayas are. Research published by American and

Pakistani scientists in the latest issue of *Nature* suggests that the original collision could have occurred more than 55 million years ago.

Dr Raymo and her colleagues tried to find out whether Tibet could cause ice ages by "removing" it on computer models of the Earth's climate run by John Kutzbach, of the University of Wisconsin. In one model the Tibetan plateau was entirely absent, in another it was half its present height, and in another full size. Without the plateau, deserts blanketed much of Asia, while Africa and the Middle East are much wetter than today. Dr Ruddiman says: "Tibet puts deserts and rainforests where they are today."

The success of the expert-

ments leaves a problem. The models show cooling — but too little of it to make ice ages. Dr Raymo's response to this setback was lengthy fieldwork in Tibet which involved examining the detailed chemistry of the waters running off the Tibetan mountains to the ocean.

She found that the answer was carbon dioxide, the "greenhouse" gas in the atmosphere which keeps the Earth at its present habitable temperature. Research by Bob Berners, of Yale University, has shown that there is an elaborate cycle in which carbon is captured in rocks, eroded to the oceans, used in the shells and skeletons of animals and

eventually released to the atmosphere.

Dr Raymo reasoned that the vast amount of river runoff from the Tibetan plateau must be carrying billions of tons of sediment with it. In fact, it turns out that 25 per cent of the sediment flow to the oceans for the entire world comes from Tibet.

This runoff means that many kilometres of sediment build up off the coasts of Asia, providing nutrients for animal life. As the animals die, their shells and skeletons fall to the sea floor and are buried, so that the carbon they contain cannot get back to the atmosphere.

Run through the computer, this mechanism for Tibet to contribute to global cooling is,

if anything, too effective. On Dr Berners's model, it could even suck all the carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, leaving the Earth so cool that the oceans would freeze, although Dr Raymo insists that other atmospheric models are kinder to her theory.

Thus modified, Dr Raymo's theory is at last showing signs of matching the observed arrival of the Ice Age. Among its supporters is Nick Shackleton, of the University of Cambridge, who has been working with the more modest sediments piled up in the Atlantic by the Amazon. The Amazon produces 10 per cent of the world's ocean sediment, most of it from the Andes.

Professor Shackleton says: "The basic chemistry is right

and the mechanism Dr Raymo has suggested is a good one. There is a good chance she is right. But it is difficult to prove rigorously. For example, it is hard to tell just how high a mountain range was at a particular point in time." This means that the detailed computer models are hard to build with sufficient rigour. The fieldwork is also complex — even drilling into sediment kilometres deep is difficult, so it is sometimes necessary to drill into thin edge deposits instead.

Professor Shackleton also agrees with a paper published in 1990 by Dr Raymo that suggests that the link between mountain-building and ice ages may be a recurrent theme in history. Ice ages are known to have occurred before, notably at 300, 370 and 440 million years in the past. These eras, she says, seem to coincide with major episodes of mountain formation.

The last link in Dr Raymo's chain of thought — the connection between Tibet and the origin of mankind — may seem the most outlandish to non-scientists, but could be the easiest to sell to her peers.

Mankind is known to have arisen, literally, in eastern Africa when early primates began to walk, talk and use tools. This happened in dry grasslands which spread as the area dried out. If Tibet diverted the rains, it affected our ancestors in favour of changes that eventually led to our being able to watch television programmes about it. Even if she is right, however, India's collision with Asia is only one of a million unpredictable steps that led to human evolution.

For now, such speculation is the least of Dr Raymo's worries. Instead, she plans to try a new method of dating cores in fossil shells to give a direct measure of the temperature of ancient oceans — and to raise money to get back to more fieldwork in the Tibetan plateau, where the answers to key questions about how fast it rose and how high are still to be uncovered.

© Martin Ince is deputy editor of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. The Ice Mother, *Horizon*, BBC2 tonight at 8pm.

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YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT.

## 3D makes a comeback

Does maths hold the key to a movie technique?

A British mathematician and inventor may have developed a simple way of screening films and television programmes in 3D nearly four decades after audiences donned special coloured spectacles to be terrified by the slimy *Creature from the Black Lagoon*.

Instead of conical glasses or sophisticated headsets which mix images to create a 3D illusion, Dr Rahim Nader, a mathematics graduate from Manchester University, has gone back to basics to search for the entertainment industry's Holy Grail. He has tried to define in precise mathematical terms how human eyes and brains perceive the world in three rather than two planes, and has used this principle to make 3D stills, video films and computer graphics.

When someone's eyes focus on an object such as a picture on a wall, a finger held up in front appears as two ghost-like images. Dr Nader, who now runs his own inventions company Imaginograph in west London, has calculated how far apart these ghost images need to be to generate a similar effect for people



The Creature from the Black Lagoon: set for a sequel

viewing films or television pictures.

It should allow a movie-maker to mix images from two cameras or "electronic eyes" as the film is being made, to create a sense of depth and three dimensionality so that audiences of the future can enjoy a stereoscopic effect without specs.

Whether Dr Nader's idea, details of which are published in *New Scientist*, can be seen. Since John Logie Baird invented television 69 years ago, history has been littered with failed attempts to create convincing 3D films and TV programmes. In 1990 two entrepreneurs in London

claimed to have cracked it, and were even paid £350,000 by two big leisure corporations for early development work. Deep Vision, the system's name, involved reprocessing old films to add what the inventors dubbed visual or "stereo" cues that tricked the eye into seeing three dimensions.

But there were allegations that rather than a breakthrough, the pair had merely added a filter over the front of a television set rather like those old 3D spectacles. The result, when viewing *Ben Hur* or *Star Wars*, was certainly 3D, but rather poor in clarity.

NICK NUTTALL

## A theory to explain invisible matter bites the dust

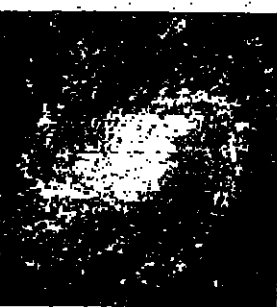
DARK matter is a peculiar beast. The invisible stuff supposedly makes up 99 per cent of the universe but cannot be seen. Most commonly invoked to help to explain the Big Bang theory of creation, it has always been regarded slightly suspiciously.

Scientists have no idea what it might be, although it should reveal its massive self through extraordinary gravitational feats like bending the light from distant galaxies.

Now dark matter has scored another coup by presenting itself as the only viable solution to the spiral galaxy conundrum. Stars skirting the outer reaches of spiral galaxies (like our own Milky Way) are orbiting so quickly that they should fling themselves to intergalactic oblivion. The visible matter makes only a tenth of that needed to keep a gravitational hold. Enter dark matter. If it were sufficiently big, a ring of dark matter around the galaxy's central disc could keep stars from flying off.

The problem is, nobody knows how such a ring might form. Two researchers in Taiwan decided to test whether dark matter really was the only answer to this puzzle. Vadim Zhuravkov and James Neeter, from the National Central University in Chung-Li, took a simple approach. Instead of inventing enough material to fit the laws of gravity, why not change the laws themselves to suit the observation? There had been suggestions that the gravity laws which so precisely plot the motions of planets and moons in our

## On the trail of a dark secret



A spiral galaxy

have also been verified. Many of Einstein's predictions have been confirmed, such as light bending and the existence of black holes.

AS this week's issue of *New Scientist* reports, the new gravity theory flopped spectacularly. It worked only when gravitons — particles carrying the gravitational force — possessed negative energy. Such a scenario is absurd. The new theory also looks as if it will fail other crucial tests set by Einstein's theory. Dark matter, whatever it is, has lived to fight another day.

ANDRANA AHUJA



Teresa Gorman's problems over renovations to her farmhouse demonstrate the pitfalls of planning laws, says Julia Llewellyn Smith

## When dream homes don't make the grade

I was an Essex girl's dream that turned into MFI man's nightmare. Teresa and Jim Gorman spared no expense when they bought a crumbling 15th-century farmhouse in Orsett, Essex. They installed mock-Tudor windows and a porch at Old Hall Farm, lived and re-laid the original floors and removed all evidence of 15th-century doorways.

The interior was stripped back to the timber frame and various Victorian features were replaced with more mock Tudor. And for what? For last week's news that Thurrock council had voted by eight to one to prosecute the Conservative MP and her husband for 33 alleged breaches of planning laws.

The Gormans are said to have caused "irreparable damage" to a "charming historic building" and could face six months in prison or a maximum fine of £660,000.

Their alleged crime was not a simple breach of good taste, but to acquire and renovate a Grade II listed building, the property buyer's equivalent of crossing the M25 blindfold. It could have happened to anyone. About 90 per cent of the 700,000 buildings listed as historical

are ordinary. Yet they come under the same strict planning rules as castles, requiring special consent for even the most mundane changes both inside and out.

Moving a fireplace, changing a door or merely painting the exterior without asking the right people can result, theoretically, in a prison sentence. Even years after work has finished, all changes might have to be ripped out and original features restored at the owner's expense.

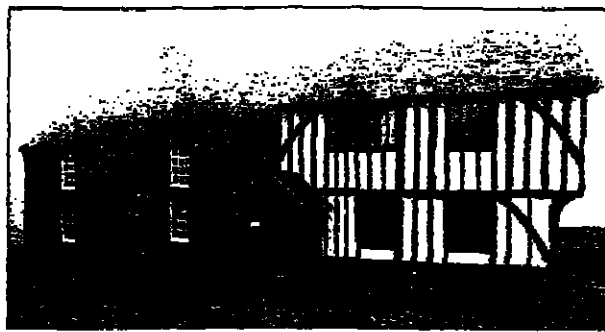
"When you purchase a listed building, your solicitor should sit you down and inform you of your obligations," says Adrian Dobinson, of the Renaissance Partnership in Bath, an adviser on old buildings. "In fact, this rarely happens."

Many homeowners plead ignorance of their responsibilities, but according to Mr Dobinson, they should not necessarily be believed. "Altering a listed building is very, very common and quite often it is

deliberate," he says. "If people see that they are going to have to wait for a planning application to be approved they decide it is not worth it and get on with the work. But sooner or later they will be found out."

Mrs Gorman, the outspoken Euro rebel, who has had the Government whip removed, is characteristically scornful of such restrictions. "People who buy dilapidated listed buildings need their heads examined," she wrote in the *Daily Mail* recently.

"The minute they begin to restore them the conservation officer will be down on them like a ton of bricks. You will be prevented from demolishing the outside loo (tin roof and all) and, at the same time, be refused permission to install a modern bathroom."



A list of complaints: the Gorman home

"You will be ordered to retain 20th-century windows and MFI doors tacked on to Tudor buildings and denied permission to open up cubby holes into modern living spaces."

Her protest was greeted with supportive yelps from dozens of beleaguered homeowners, complaining that they could not repair their thatch or install double glazing without going through a Kafkaesque bureaucratic process.

Even the man originally responsible for the rules regarding listed buildings admits that they may be too draconian. "I foresaw and warned in vain that this would result in a bureaucratic field day," wrote Geoffrey Carter, the parliamentary counsel who drafted the relevant clause in the

1968 Town and Country Planning Act, in *The Times* on Friday. "The most trifling alterations to an old house would have to be negotiated with the council, whose officials would seek to control more and more and prohibit more and more."

What constitutes "vandalism" is, however, a matter of opinion. Mrs Gorman may have invested thousands of pounds in modernising her home, yet Thurrock Council's report belittles her efforts as "some concept to create a pseudo-medieval building" in a "ghastly mish-mash of styles and materials".

Emma Phillips, of Save Britain's Heritage, is unsympathetic to Mrs Gorman's plight. "There are many who would argue that the buildings should not be allowed to be grotesquely restored and converted and that it would be better to let them fall into ruin," she says.

Mrs Gorman's case will do little to encourage potential saviours of the 30,000 listed buildings in England that are derelict or falling into disrepair. Nor will they be heartened by research that shows

that a listed building will cost its owner an average of £7,000 over three years to maintain and repair.

So what cheer is there for those still nourishing dreams of a half-timbered cottage nestling among the honeysuckle? Well, untapped stores of government funds for starters. "Grants that are simply unavailable for any sort of structure are there for listed buildings," says Mr Dobinson, who can also advise on little-known VAT loopholes and other tax concessions.

Even here, however, the path is riddled with confusion over what financial help is available. "The local authority conservation officer should be able to advise but in practice he knows nothing, because central government has not informed him of the options," says Mr Dobinson.

Those still determined to possess a little piece of English heritage should remember that good communication is vital. Ms Phillips says: "If you talk to people and don't try to achieve miracles alone, then there really should be very little problem." Alternatively, there are such things as Barratt homes.

## The invisible wife at Newt's side

As the new Republican leader makes headlines, his wife remains an enigma. Martin Fletcher reports

Marianne Gingrich is America's invisible woman. While Newt Gingrich craves media attention, his wife has given no interviews since her husband's elevation and practically none during his 16 years in Congress.

While the new Speaker of the House is drawn to cameras like a heat-seeking missile, Mrs Gingrich is rarely photographed, even though she is a tall, good-looking woman.

She receives only passing mentions in the current avalanche of profiles of her husband. Not one American in a thousand could tell you what her name is, let alone what she looks like.

Mrs Gingrich scarcely featured in all the hoopla surrounding her husband's coronation last week, which was somewhat curious as Newt Gingrich has usurped Dan Quayle as the new champion of American family values.

The country knows plenty about the rest of Mr Gingrich's family.

His mother, Kathleen, recently talked for eight hours to CBS alone, letting slip in the course of that marathon interview that her son considered Hillary Clinton a "bitch".

His stepfather, Bob, boycotted Mr Gingrich's first wedding to his high school maths teacher because he disapproved. His relationship with his stepson had always been difficult, and he was unsure he would even attend Mr Gingrich's swearing-in last Wednesday. In the event he did, but inexplicably failed to join the standing ovations.

By now, most Americans know their new Speaker has a gay half-sister and a daughter who vocally supports abortion rights — "life can be complicated," the conservative new Speaker ruefully admits.

They certainly all know about Mr Gingrich's first wife,

Jackie, and how he pressed for a divorce while she was recovering from cancer and later failed adequately to support her.

The futurists and writers and unorthodox consultants who fertilise Mr Gingrich's thinking have all been extensively written about. Even Mr Gingrich's flamboyant British-born press secretary, Tony Blankley, has become a bit of a celebrity. But of the second Mrs Gingrich, most Americans know almost nothing.

She was born Marianne Ginter 42 years ago in Ohio. She went to Kent State University but left before graduating, in part because of the National Guard's shooting of four anti-war students there in 1970. Mr

Gingrich was introduced to her by a fellow congressman when his first marriage was disintegrating and she was a local government employee in Ohio. He was eight years her senior, but they began dating and married within months of his divorce in 1981.

Those who know Mrs Gingrich say she is warm, intelligent and fun, but has never been a political animal and always loathed the limelight.

It was not a recipe for an easy marriage, especially when her husband was obsessed by his high-profile crusade to destroy the Democrats' iron grip on Congress. While Mr Gingrich lived a bachelor's existence in Washington, she spent most of her time back in Georgia, where she gained a business degree from Georgia State College.

"I got the impression she really despised Washington and didn't like to spend much time there. She said it was a very unhealthy city," said a journalist who did briefly interview her in 1985. "She's very

down-to-earth, and has no airs or pretensions," said a former member of Mr Gingrich's staff. "That's what makes her so charming, but so un-Washington."

By the late 1980s, the marriage was in trouble. In May, 1989, Mr Gingrich was being accused of ethical misconduct over payments for a book he and his wife had co-authored. Mrs Gingrich dutifully appeared with her husband at a press conference, but fled in tears when reporters began questioning her conduct. "I just couldn't stand it any more. That was awful," she said afterwards.

The following month the two candidly discussed their marital problems in a long-forgotten *Washington Post* article. Mrs Gingrich admitted they had been separated — "frankly it's been off and on for some time". It was hard to combine marriage and politics. "You marry to get married, not because you want to change the world," she complained, adding she was uncertain that the marriage would last.

Mr Gingrich likewise conceded the incompatibility of Washington politics and married life. "When you have a game which is this passionate

and this intense and this exhausting it's just very hard to have a personal relationship," he said. He had formed "habits of dominance" from being the centre of attention. He had read a book called *Men Who Hate Women* and the *Women Who Love Them* and "found frightening pieces that related to my own life". Always calculating, he gave the marriage a 53-47 chance of survival.

In the event, Mr and Mrs Gingrich appear finally to have reached relative contentment. While he climbs ever higher on the greasy pole of politics she pursues her own career as a business consultant, dividing her time between Washington, Georgia and Ohio.

She dutifully campaigns with her husband at election time, and in her own quiet way has evidently become a moderating influence on the self-proclaimed revolutionary. In a touching moment after Mr Gingrich was sworn in, he looked up to his wife in the gallery and spoke of "my closest friend and my best adviser. If I listened to her about 20 per cent more, I'd get in less trouble."

One person who knows both well said that despite everything Mr Gingrich was, and always had been, "devoted" to Marianne, but explained: "It's not always easy to live with a brilliant person who knows he's brilliant."



Marianne Gingrich: she supports her husband, but she has appeared to despise life in Washington

## Crime-fighting is not for the amateurs

When forces of law make asses of themselves every day, there is a dangerous temptation to take to the streets and mete out our own justice

IN the great Pro-Am law and order challenge, the amateurs have surged ahead. The appointed authorities first lost points by their inability to keep prisoners in prison; it now transpires that not only do they fail to notice for an hour when chaps go missing, but that a maximum security jail can't even keep tabs on a beard.

On Saturday morning we learnt that whereas Parkhurst published a picture of Keith Rose with a thick pepper-and-salt beard, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary have "intelligence" that he shaved it off the week before. His hair seems to think it was still there (or perhaps it had come back?) two hours before the escape; and Hampshire police have a theory that it may be "neatly trimmed". Maybe it got divided up into false moustaches for the other two escapes. If, as you read this, Mr Rose has turned up, check to make sure that the beard is not still on the run.

So much for the professionals. Meanwhile, the week ended with three stories of

amateur crime-fighting. They are neatly shaded from comic to tragic let us begin with the heroic tale of Pamela Suhadolnik, a middle-aged Teesside businesswoman.

She was fresh back from a salon "blow-dry" when she found Edward Gill, an experienced burglar, doing over her bungalow. Mrs Suhadolnik was frightened, she says, but on seeing her little boy's shocked face she got angry. An entranced courtroom heard how she chased the burglar across the fields, over stile and barbed wire, lecturing him all the way.

"You probably don't believe in God," she puffed, "but you're running straight to hell! Do you realise what it feels like to have your home broken into?" Mr Gill kept apologising, dropped the loot, and ran on: the hairsprayed hound of heaven pursued him still. He is now staring a three-year sentence. Even if he

goes to Parkhurst he probably won't dare escape, in case Mrs Suhadolnik chases him again.

The pleasure of that story lies in the woman's rage and the burglar's capitulation. By rare luck, it is not spoilt by some whingeing counter-claim from him alleging trauma, torn trousers and mental anguish at her threats of damnation. Also, he pleaded guilty.

The second case is less clear-cut. Three Ludlow parents have got away with probation on a kidnap charge. They had targeted a 14-year-old thug with previous formal cautions for threatening teachers. This boy, the parents believed, was bullying their children. So they bundled him in a car in his underwear and drove him half a mile, asking stridently

how he liked being bullied for a change? The judge, hearing that their previous approaches to the school, police, social workers and the boy's father had been fruitless, accepted their remorse and ruled out prison. As he observed, it takes little imagination to sympathise with such frustration.

The boy, however, has now slipped into victim-mode and is seeing a psychiatrist; his father bitterly says the vigilantes should be put inside. I suppose that if it were our child we would all feel the same. Justice must be done to awful children, but not necessarily by furious civilians in Ford Sierras.

Ah, you say, but if justice is not done...? Be honest, admit there is a certain bracing appeal in the Ludlow system. I

know of a village headmaster who, when a child came to school bruised, bypassed all the paraphernalia of case-conferences and went round personally to punch the father on the nose. It worked, apparently.

The final case, however, brings down the darkness. A poacher has been shot in Co Durham and two farmers are being questioned. We do not know the truth yet, but it is beyond doubt that landowners get dangerously fed up with poaching (which sounds like buccannery fun, but can be a major theft). Other local farmers have damned the police as "ineffective" in the matter. If they are, not only pheasant-breeders pay the price; the poacher is dead. He has two young children.

It is the gradient between these three dramas which is so chilling. We all get angry about sneering yobbery and official excuses, and the wool-

ly-minded sabotaging of the authority of teachers and police. Even leftover Sixties liberals are starting to sigh at our unique legacy of old-fashioned left-wing idiocy and thoroughly modern right-wing incompetence provided by 16 years of smug, blustering, doctrinaire and startlingly "inefficient" Conservative government. We have the worst of both worlds. I notice that our own local constabulary is so broke it expects to lose 8 per cent of its officers shortly. Ah well, back to basics.

IT seems likely that the exhilaration of lynch law will grow more and more superficially appealing. The excellent fiery spirit of Mrs Suhadolnik will enice us further into the mire like a will-o-the-wisp; there will be more overreactions and injustices, bundlings into cars, shots by night, anarchy. Unless, of course, we very soon get a competent, consensual, pragmatic middle-England administration with the nerve to stop the process. Start praying now.



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## Matthew Parris



■ How reassuring to pause from travels abroad to find that the vision thing is still with us

Like some migrating tern pausing for refreshment in flight from Hong Kong (whence he has just come) to Antarctica (whither he goes), your columnist has alighted for a few days in England. And what refreshment do I find? A pile of back numbers of *The Times* containing a notable attack by Sir Alfred Sherman on bus lanes, and news that John Major's Government staggers from crisis to crisis and surely cannot last. There is editorial advice, too: the Prime Minister must communicate a clearer sense of vision.

Good: so nothing has changed. For *The Times* would not be *The Times*. The *Telegraph* without an occasional attack by Alfred Sherman on bus lanes. It is one of those enduring elements in our national life that serve to reassure us that the Earth continues in its orbit and the seasons turn. February will bring the snowdrops, and an article by Simon Jenkins on the need to revive local democracy, with March will come gales, an epitaph from Bernard Levin on the delights of Tasmanian opera; and by April, as the first pansies poke their heads into the spring sunshine, Matthew Parris will be banging on about gay rights again. Ah, the comforting certainties of metropolitan life! This time, Sir Alfred was attacking bus lanes only *en passant*, his main target being the railways. How he hates them. Should (God forbid) our hopes (and his convictions) prove mistaken and Sir Alfred turn out to be mortal after all, I intend to raise funds by public subscription for a statue of the diminutive Sherman by the steps of Waterloo station, shaking his stone fist at the trains.

John Major will be an old man by then (his Government terminally weakened, staggering towards possibly his last crisis). Already, there is a whole generation in Britain which can remember no other political circumstance. It is one of the constant features of modern history. Really, the imminent demise of Major should join the ceremonial rather than the functional part of the British constitution: the kind of thing Lord St John of Fawley comments upon on TV. And what of Fleet Street's ritual leading articles identifying the need for a Tory vision? Many A-level students now believe that the paragraph about Mr Major's failure to inspire us with a clear sense of purpose is actually a formal journalistic requirement for any editorial opinion about the Government. Some believe the formula is not in fact an operative part of the leading article but a floating extension of the masthead.

Ah, the comforting certainties already emerging from the great metropolis

Getting over a bout of political vision is rather like falling out of love or recovering from malaria: convalescence! Hoory! That illness is departing! That wonderful, cool, sane feeling of gradually returning health and the reassertion of judgment! Still, odes to the power of love are as perennial as proofs of the folly of love, and leading articles on the need for vision are as perennial as the grass. And will burn, as straw burns, just as brightly comes the autumn.

And so to Antarctica. There, they say, penguins stand in flocks and, when a plane passes over, crane their necks in unison until they overbalance and fall flat on their backs like synchronised ninetynines. I hope to see this. On return, I hope to observe British political commentators, also standing in a flock and craning their necks in wonder as the Blair phenomenon passes through its zenith overhead — until they, too, tip and fall together in their own synchronised media ballet.

And if this is Monday, that must have been an article by the prophet Matthew about how all is vanity and there is nothing new under the sun, and John Major's a lot better than you think. But which of us can stand aside from the dance?

Taking a moderate Euro-sceptic position could at last give the Prime Minister a way to party unity

## Why Major is right to come off the fence

John Major seemed in a good mood yesterday morning on BBC's *Breakfast With Frost* programme. He has some reason to be, despite the minor harassments of Michael Howard's prisoners and William Waldegrave's calves. The Government stock has been grossly oversold. The Labour lead of 39 per cent in the opinion polls is an exaggeration of any sustainable public opinion. In some ways, it is easier to move from being 39 per cent behind, which represents an extreme of the volatile movement of public opinion, than from 15 per cent behind, which may well represent voters' considered judgment of a government's performance. To stick at minus 15 would look very bad; to rise from minus 39 to minus 15 would be good for Conservative morale.

The Prime Minister gave an excellent interview with David Frost. He is at his best in one-to-one interviews; he struggles with the rhetoric of speeches to big audiences, but answers individual questions with good mastery of detail, and leaves a general impression of intelligence and sincerity. Like many, though not all, politicians, he performs best under polite and sympathetic questioning, at which Frost specialises.

No doubt Mr Major feels that the economic improvement of 1994 will work through to political support in 1995. Rising output, falling unemployment and low inflation may not yet have been converted into consumer purchasing — economically that is just as well — but they provide a good platform for rebuilding political confidence. The relationship between the economic and political cycle is complex, but at least the Government can point to an improving rather than a deteriorating economy. The memories of the early 1990s have not yet faded, but they become less vivid as time goes on.

As the election itself comes closer, people start to be interested in the policies of the Opposition. This is now what is happening to the Labour Party, and it provides the Tories with targets. The first two Labour policies to receive close attention have been devolution and education. Both prove to be spiked with difficulties. This public examination of Labour policy makes some voters aware of the things Labour would do that they would not like. Even if the Labour policies were better and clearer than they are, the process would inevitably alienate some supporters.

Tony Blair may not even be able to get his own way over Clause Four of the Labour Party constitution. Probably, he will win the vote at this year's Labour Party conference, but it will not be a walkover. The public will be reminded that there are still Labour politicians and powerful trade union leaders who do not believe in the new Labour Party, but are socialists of an old-fashioned kind who would like to nationalise anything that moves and clobber the middle class, even if they recognise that both would be unpopular. That debate may strengthen Tony Blair as leader, because he will be seen to have won, but is not likely to make his party more attractive to those 14 million people who voted Conservative in 1992.

One of Mr Major's most interesting skills is his ability both to recover and profit from his own mistakes.

His exchange-rate mechanism policy was a disaster, which made the recession much worse than it needed to be. He is now claiming credit for the economic recovery which followed Britain's leaving the ERM, against his will. At the next election, he may well be given the credit for the consequences of his policy's failure.

In the Frost interview, he was moving toward taking a similar advantage from his biggest mistake — the Maastricht treaty — and from his most recent little mistake — the

single currency, to veto an extension of majority voting and to veto greater powers for the Commission or the Parliament. If he cannot veto these things, he will accept the need for a referendum. This means that John Major, the most cautious of party leaders, has come off the fence, although he still has to convince the Euro-sceptics of his new convictions.

These assurances, and the warmth with which he spoke of restoring the whip to Conservative colleagues, may be wormwood to one or two of his Cabinet colleagues, but they also pose a problem for Mr Blair: Will the Labour Party want to fight the next election looking like Euro-fanatics?

William Rees-Mogg

removal of the whip from the eight Euro-sceptics. He committed himself to opposing any further post-Maastricht constitutional changes in the 1996 inter-governmental conference. He made it clear that he regards the nine rebels as "the bluest of true-blue Tories". That accolade means he intends to bring them back as soon as possible. It certainly cuts the ground from beneath their Tory critics.

The interview showed that the Prime Minister has now decided to reunite the Conservative Party around a moderate Euro-sceptic position. He is prepared to veto a

Mr Major seems to have made his own leadership position impregnable, so long as he holds to these assurances, and his Government suffers no unforeseen catastrophe. A large majority of Tories both in Parliament and in the country is comprised of moderate Euro-sceptics: now Mr Major has climbed off the fence he is on the same side as the majority of his party and his potential left-wing challengers are not.

These trends could easily cut the gap between the Tories and Labour by a half or more, but they will not of themselves put the Conservatives back in the lead. Tony Blair is a more attractive Liberal leader than Paddy Ashdown; it is hard to see why anyone should vote Liberal at the

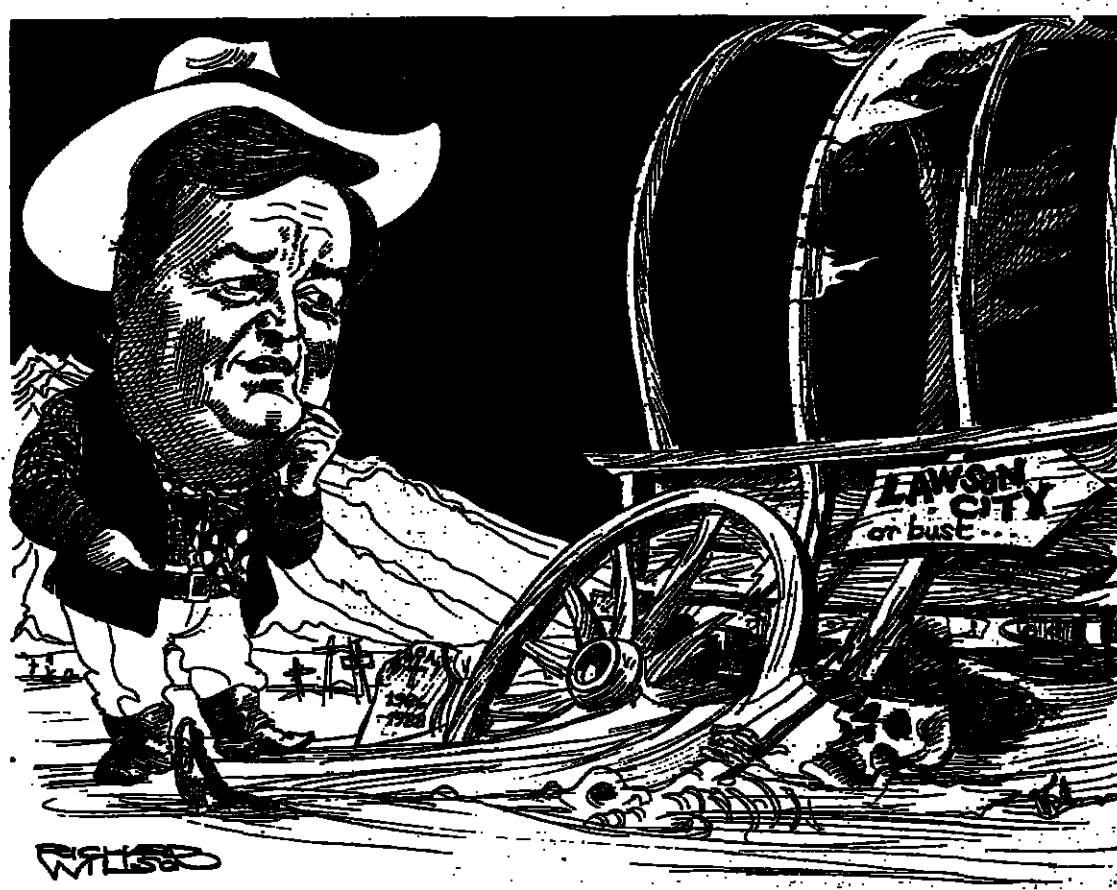
next election in any constituency the Liberals do not already hold. Mr Major may be able to win back 1992 Conservative voters; he can hardly expect to stop 1992 Liberal voters swinging to Mr Blair.

This is where the example of Newt Gingrich and the American Republicans comes into the British argument. Their victory represents the next stage of radical conservatism. Some of the programme is specifically American, but the basic ideas apply to all advanced industrial societies. By the next election, the Tories must be saying something as appropriate to the ten years after 1997 as their 1979 programme was to the 1980s. All the industrialised nations are changing rapidly, industrially, economically and socially. The Tories in Britain have not rethought the future in a radical way since Margaret Thatcher and Keith Joseph did so in the 1970s.

Mr Major describes himself, with some justice, as a pragmatist. He needs now to look at the lessons of the defeat of George Bush. President Bush did better than Mr Major has done so far. He got the economy right, got his foreign policy right, won the Gulf War, and faced an essentially bogus Democratic campaign. He lost the election. He did so partly because people were bored. A busy Prime Minister, shuttling around the world capitals, is not too well placed to formulate the new contract with Britain that Mr Gingrich has formulated for the United States. But Mr Major has to find the people who have the political imagination to do it for him. The next general election can be won by the Conservatives only if they prove to the public that their vision of the next century will be better for Britain than the Labour Party's. The coming Tory recovery could be a trap if it persuades John Major that he can win the 1997 election without 1997 ideas.

## Don't count on big tax cuts

The Lawson boom years show that too-rapid expansion could hurt, says Peter Riddell



What happens if the economy remains so strong that we cannot announce big tax cuts in November without being regarded as economically irresponsible, a senior Cabinet minister recently wondered. Most Tory MPs would be horrified if the Government did not start playing the tax-cut card this autumn. John Major yesterday again fuelled these hopes. Taxes will almost certainly be cut, but will the reductions be big enough for voters to notice, and applaud, after the recent big rises? The Treasury and the Bank of England are dubious about the scope for sizeable cuts. Political and economic priorities — and Mr Major and Kenneth Clarke — could easily clash.

The Government's strategy has been to hold down public spending and raise taxes so that borrowing is reduced to a level where pre-election tax cuts can be presented as "prudent", in Mr Major's careful phrase. By next November, public borrowing should be well down. But it is not just a question of whether tax cuts can be "afforded", but also of what impact they will have on the economy, and on interest rates.

At present, the economy is growing at more than 4 per cent a year. But is this sustainable? Treasury officials believe that the trend rate of growth achievable over the medium term may have risen above past estimates of between 2 and 2.5 per cent a year, but not by that much. Though there is still some spare capacity, Mr Clarke agrees with Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank, that a 4 per cent rate cannot be maintained for long without boosting inflation. Most forecasters expect a slowdown this year to about 3.25 per cent. But suppose that

recent interest-rate increases, with another rise likely before long, do not act as a brake and expansion remains buoyant. Would it then be sensible to fuel the fire with tax cuts?

We have been here before. And Treasury ministers and officials are already debating the lessons. In March 1988, Nigel Lawson announced tax cuts amounting to more than £6 billion in a full year. This Budget has since been seen as stoking up an already overheated economy. Tough restrictive action was soon required, including both sharp rises in interest rates and tax increases.

In his *View from Number 11*, Lord Lawson denies that the Budget was intended to give the economy a boost. On his view, official forecasts underestimated the expansionary forces at work, while, if a squeeze on public spending is taken into account,

as well as tax cuts, the net effect of the Budget was contractionary. In the event, a huge, and much larger than expected, Budget "surplus" was achieved. He doubts whether anyone could have planned for an even larger surplus. "To put things further in perspective, the scale of the growth in consumer credit in the ensuing year was ten times as great as the reduction in taxation." That is even broadly accepted by Baroness Thatcher in her memoirs, which are otherwise highly critical of the end of Lord Lawson's period as Chancellor.

The bare figures may, however, underestimate the psychological impact of tax cuts at a time when some ministers, including the cautious Chief Secretary, a Mr Major, were

talking about an economic miracle. Lord Lawson admits that "in the short term, it may have unintentionally contributed to a climate of excessive optimism and dangerously unrealistic expectations".

Both Lady Thatcher and Lord Lawson put the primary blame on the interest-rate and exchange-rate side, while casting each other as villains. The Government, as well as banks and building societies, underestimated the impact of financial deregulation in stimulating credit, while everyone overreacted to the stock market crash of 1987. The failure then to realise the extent of overheating in 1988 was compounded by the running battle between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor over exchange-rate policy, when neither was willing to confront the other. Lord Lawson is probably right that

the fiscal and monetary decisions of 1988 occurred too late to have caused the inflationary boom, but they did delay necessary corrective action.

Financial conditions are much less buoyant now: real incomes and the housing market have been flat and interest rates have already been raised. But there are some disturbing similarities. Most forecasters believe, as in 1987-88, that recent strong growth, which they underestimated, is bound to be followed by a slowdown. It is notoriously hard to forecast such turning points.

The danger is that, even if public finances are improving rapidly, big tax cuts would boost consumer spending and, indirectly, inflationary pressures at just the wrong time. Mr Clarke and Mr George have repeatedly said they want to avoid a repetition of the late 1980s boom. And the Bank of England is in a more powerful position than it was then because of its more publicly identified influence over interest rate decisions. If the Bank is worried about the inflationary implications of tax cuts, it could threaten to raise interest rates, and would have to do so to maintain its credibility.

Such an outright conflict with the Tories' electoral plans may not happen. Economic growth may slacken to permit "prudent" tax cuts. Mr Clarke would probably insist on any cuts being limited in the immediate future, possibly as a first instalment of a multi-year package. He will anyway be able to present some "cut" in taxes, even though he is merely returning the revenue produced by inflation. And the Treasury can try to offset income tax cuts by tax increases elsewhere — which is difficult before an election — or by a further squeeze on public spending. The latter was suggested on Friday by John Redwood in a tactless spirit redoubled seldom echoed by his big-spending colleagues.

Mr Major cannot have sustained growth, big tax reductions and low interest rates, all combined. His eagerness to lead a tax-cutting party into the next election may be checked by the very strength of the economy that he proclaims.

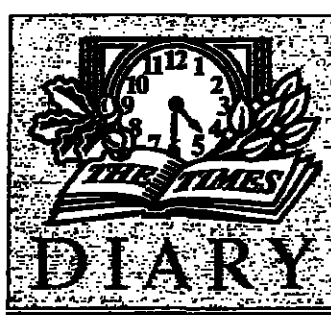
## Sticky wicket

A WORK of fiction unlikely to be included in John Major's bedtime reading will reach the bookshelves this spring. It chronicles the downfall of a Prime Minister obsessed with cricket.

The book takes the form of letters of advice from a senior party apparatchik to his nephew. *Letters To A Young Politician* is written by Lord McAlpine, the former Conservative Party treasurer and close friend of Baroness Thatcher.

"There is," McAlpine told me yesterday, "nothing in the book that has not happened, or could not happen." The description of the Prime Minister's Boxing Day lunch at Chequers is certainly not unfamiliar. "All cricketers and bit players from the media... the PM enjoyed himself mightily. They all told him how wonderful he was, and I suppose that on the way home they told each other how appalling he is."

Unsurprisingly, the PM loses an election as well as a subsequent leadership challenge. To the delight of the Right, he is replaced by a man of principle with a penchant for cold baths in the morning. The book makes light of a



conceited politician "whose hair blows in the slipstream of his own oratory". Many might take this individual for Michael Heseltine. Parallels with other politicians can be drawn and McAlpine admits the work is based on a lifetime in politics. "But I emphasise," he says, "that this is a fictional work." The kind of fiction that I suspect John Major would prefer to avoid.

### Uneasy night

AS tomorrow's Senate-style hearings in Brussels loom, tonight might be a sleepless one for Neil Kinnock, one of the European

Commissioner-designates — but Glenys won't be there to mop his brow. She is zipping back to Ealing for a knees-up with old friends.

The thrusting MEP, who will be cross-examining other ministers herself tomorrow, has not forgotten where she cut her political teeth. At 4pm today, she is dashing onto a flight from Brussels to be at a supper party with Claire Rayner and Miriam Karlin in aid of One World Action, the Third World charity organisation she founded. She is jetting straight back to Brussels first thing tomorrow.

The former Labour leader does not have the happiest memories of the venue for the party, the Sitar Indian restaurant. He was once involved in a fracas there with two youths who hit him on the head with a newspaper.

### Camp leader

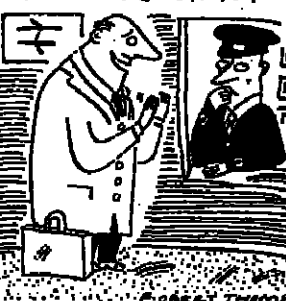
LARRY GRAYSON, the flamboyant comedian who died at the weekend, will be best remembered for his camp catchphrases. Our obituary records some theories on the origin of that most famous refrain of all, "Shut that door". An old friend of Grayson tells me he was there when the phrase was coined. In 1964, long before *The Generations Game*, Grayson was appear-

ing in a show called *Birds of a Feather* produced by Paul Raymond and featuring a lot of men in dresses. The venue was the Royalty Theatre.

"It was a very draughty place," remembers the pal. "Doors kept banging backstage so loudly that they could be heard in the auditorium." In the end, Larry simply incorporated the noise into his act. "Shut that door," he shouted to the delight of the audience, a mixture of drag queens and old ladies.

What is vulgar to one person is deeply affecting and touching to others. In this week's issue of Paris

TICKET, TICKET... YOU KNOW, LITTLE PAPER THING WITH NUMBERS ON IT?



Match magazine a panel of minor French celebrities judges Europe's princesses. The Duchess of York, pictured with Beatrice and Eugenie, is "la plus émanante (the most affecting and touching)".

### Driving on

PEARL Pleydell-Bouverie, Lord Monaghu's mother, celebrated her 100th birthday with a lively bash at the National Motor Museum yesterday. She explained that she was not always so keen on her son littering the Beaulieu estate with vintage cars.

His collection started in 1951 with exhibits on show in Palace Hall, the family home on the estate. But Mrs Pleydell-Bouverie was not happy and the whole lot was moved soon after to a woodland in the grounds. "I was not too impressed," said his mother. "And I was frightened by the smell of petrol."

### Battle dress

THE red carpet was unrolled for the worthy burghers of Waterloo, Belgium, when they arrived at Waterloo station, London, on Saturday. The Eurostar journey celebrated the 200th anniversary of



Vivienne Westwood, left, and Frank Bruno: style points

the centenary of Waterloo and the 180th anniversary of the battle. Behind the burghers, in his splendid ceremonial garb, were 300 of his most solid citizens. Pauline Watson, the Mayor of Lambeth, stood her ground. "I was waiting in my full regalia," she says, with a fine competitive edge.

### Showtime

THE WORLD OF showbusiness is well represented among those fea-



tured in the 1995 edition of *Who's Who*, which is to be published later this month. Harry Enfield, Helena Bonham-Carter and Clive Anderson are all new entries.

For two other newcomers, dress is very important. Vivienne Westwood is in for setting trends, Frank Bruno for following them (and boxing). The pugilist records his favourite recreation as "shopping for good clothes".

P.H.S





## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Major heads the views of the Tory right

John Major's promise yesterday to block constitutional change at the 1996 inter-governmental conference was a well-timed conciliatory gesture to the Euro-sceptic Right of his party. Though still cautious on the need for a referendum on the future of the European Union, the Prime Minister pledged to "keep open the option"; he also said he would resist any attempts to impose a single currency. More importantly, he went out of his way to flatter the nine MPs who have lost or resigned the whip, describing them as "very Conservative". His change of tone towards the exiles was clear, deliberate and, from his point of view, wise.

The question is whether Mr Major's remarks reflect a strategic shift in thinking, or merely a tactical one. In the short term, he needs the support of the alienated sceptics for Wednesday's vote on the composition of standing committees. But in the longer term, he can also benefit from the agenda which is being set by the Right of the Tory party. This is no easy process. In the current political climate, the Labour and Conservative Parties have grown equally nervous of thinking aloud. Last week David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, was slapped down by the Opposition leadership for suggesting the levying of VAT on school fees. Yesterday, likewise, John Redwood's Cabinet colleagues were reported to be furious with the Welsh Secretary for claiming that public spending reduction was "a myth". At present, party management seems to be counted more important than the imaginative development of policy.

There is no doubt, however, that the Conservative Right is the only section of the party offering a coherent and ambitious alternative to Tony Blair's "New Labour". First, and most obviously, it has continued to challenge the federalist argument that Britain is in inexorable decline and that the nation's only future lies in a European superstate. Michael Portillo and Jonathan

Aitken, for instance, have tried to redefine what it is to be "pro-European", arguing for free trade and flexible labour markets rather than intervention from Brussels.

Secondly, the Right has correctly identified the importance of constitutional issues and institutional reform. On Friday Mr Portillo argued in a lecture at Liverpool Cathedral that "the challenge is to find a way of reforming government without destroying those historic anomalies and national habits that people hold dear". The Conservative Party can no longer adopt the High Tory position that all constitutional change is objectionable. But it can challenge Labour's ambitious proposals for regional assemblies and Scottish devolution by pointing out the complexities of such measures and the delicate balance of an unwritten constitution. The Tory party must make clear the difference between intelligent constitutional reform and radical rationalism.

Thirdly, Mr Major should not ignore what the Right has to say about taxation, public spending and the limitations of government. In pointing out that public expenditure will rise by many billions next year and that this scarcely represents "a huge squeeze", Mr Redwood merely offered his own gloss on published figures. In arguing that government has claimed too great a role for itself, Mr Portillo was merely re-stating in vivid language what has long been the official position of the Conservative Party.

Both ministers were responding to a strong sense of dissatisfaction at the Tory grass roots. By excluding a group of MPs so dramatically, Mr Major has given party activists a clearer sense of the decisions they must make in the months ahead. They must choose between the different brands of Toryism and decide how far to put duty before grievance. It is for the Prime Minister to make that choice as simple as he can.

## A SRI LANKAN TRUCE

Has the lost island now found its path to peace?

Scarcely anyone in Sri Lanka will have noticed that the country's President had on Friday promised Parliament that she would increase neither corporate nor personal income tax. Fewer still will have digested properly her formal commitment to privatise Sri Lanka's state-run aviation, transport and insurance sectors. For Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga instead captured public attention by announcing, in the same speech, that her Government had signed a truce with the Tamil rebel group with whom the army has been at war since 1983.

The truce, which took effect yesterday, is the most cheering news to emerge from that war-ravaged island since Mrs Kumaratunga's election victory in August last year. In describing the cessation of hostilities as "hopefully the dawn of a new era", the President was careful to strike a temperate note: the truce is to last for an initial period of only two weeks. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam are not noted for a conciliatory temper. The Tigers are a ruthless organisation, responsible for the deaths of the late Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the late Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa, and the opposition presidential candidate Gamini Dissanayake, as well as a sizeable proportion of the 30,000 people who have died in 11 years of civil war.

Yet until Mrs Kumaratunga's election, a succession of Governments in Colombo had been as adamant in their unwillingness to negotiate as their Tamil foes. The Tamil problem is as old as independent Sri Lanka: leaders of the minority ethnic group, which constitutes nearly 20 per cent of the country's population, have always argued — and with good reason — that Colombo's language, education and employment policies have

been fashioned in such a manner as to favour the majority Sinhalese.

There have been truces before in this long civil war, and cynics may be tempted to argue that the latest pact is destined also to crumble. But there is ground for cautious optimism, and two reasons to believe that Mrs Kumaratunga may succeed where others before her have failed. First, she has an electoral mandate to deal with the Tamils. For the forthright nature of her election campaign, in which she made it plain that she intended to pursue peace with the Tigers, Mrs Kumaratunga is the Sri Lankan leader best placed — since the civil war began — to make political concessions. Secondly, the President has announced that the truce is only the first step to negotiations on substantive political issues. As she told Parliament on Friday, her Government's package "is one of very extensive devolution". Clearly, the Tamils will not regard as a serious offer anything less than the highest degree of autonomy. Their consistent demand, however, has been for a sovereign state. Mrs Kumaratunga will need to persuade them to withdraw that demand, just as her Government is prepared now to settle for something less than a unitary political structure.

The Pope arrives in Colombo on January 20. His impending visit may have acted as a catalyst for change, helping to spur both the Government and the Tigers to agree to the ceasefire. There are many Catholics in the besieged Tamil areas in the north who would wish to make their pilgrimage to Colombo: they may now be able to do so, and the country will be the richer for it. The Pope will say Mass among a people who may at last learn the meaning of peace.

## SEEING IN THE DARK

December 1895: The birth of cinema — most say

At the Grand Café in Paris, 99 Decembers ago, the Lumière brothers put on the first public screening in the history of cinema. Soigné patrons paid a franc each to view a series of ten films, each lasting no longer than a minute. The celluloid fare included a scene of a baby being fed; a clumsy gardener squirting himself with a hose (called *Arroseur arrosé*) and a view of the sea. From this improbable beginning grew an industry which — more than any other — can claim to be the leading art-form of the 20th century, and particularly its latter half.

No other industry has given so much pleasure to so many. Going to the cinema is one of those rare acts which is today both routine and rousing. With the decline in the West of folk tales and mythology, films are for children an early source of wonderment and marvel.

The greatest virtue of the cinema, though, is in its ability to capture the adult imagination. Watching a film in the dark, "alone in a crowd", can be as complex a test of the critical faculties as reading, writing or talking. And cinema is unmatched in its ability to provoke elemental — even primitive — reactions in its audience. These can be cathartic, such as tears shed when a penniless father is caught when stealing a bicycle for his son; or disconcerting, such as when an audience exults in an act of violence or destruction.

Not to be underestimated is cinema's role as historian. An appreciable amount can be learnt about a society from the films it produces. *The Birth of a Nation*, *The Battleship Potemkin*, *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Jules et Jim*, and *Alfie* — to take but a handful of random examples from the gigantic range available — are all powerful historical "documents". From them we learn of the aesthetic preferences of a time, of its technological achievements, of business practices, and the broader social and political currents. Our understanding of Weimar Germany, for example, is enhanced by *The Blue Angel*; the neuroses of modern middle class America are deftly illustrated by *Fatal Attraction*. Naturally, a historian of cinema must tread carefully: a film-maker may have chosen to portray his society in a way which is at odds with his own society's assessment of itself.

In the course of its century, cinema has faced a stream of obstacles, ranging from censorship to financial drought. Of course, it has survived better in some countries than in others. Hollywood has proved sturdiest in the cinematic market. Its global reach, however, testifies not just to the efficiency of its methods and the slickness of its marketing: it testifies also to the universality of cinema's irrepressible language.

## Call for external Parkhurst inquiry

From the Shadow Home Secretary

Sir, On any scale the recent escapes from Parkhurst (letters, January 7) are as least as serious as those in September last from Whitemoor jail. The prisoners are as dangerous, the circumstances of the escapes equally alarming. Moreover, the Parkhurst escapes remain at large. Those from Whitemoor were recaptured within hours.

But while a fully independent inquiry was established into the Whitemoor escapes, the inquiry at Parkhurst is to be an internal one, conducted by Mr Richard Tilt, the Prison Service's Director of Security.

This is wrong, for the service will end up acting as judge and jury in its own cause.

The internal inquiry also places Mr Tilt in an impossible position. One of the most disturbing allegations surrounding the Parkhurst escapes is that of Judge Tumin, Chief Inspector of Prisons, that both the Home Secretary, Mr Michael Howard, and the Director-General of the Prison Service, Mr Derek Lewis, were warned of potential security lapses at the prison three months ago (report, January 5).

Any thorough inquiry must examine those claims in detail, and also the disparity between Judge Tumin's account and those of Mr Howard and Mr Lewis. But how can Mr Tilt be expected to do this when Mr Lewis is his boss and Mr Howard his political master?

If public confidence in the Prison Service is to have any chance of restoration, Mr Howard should meet the request I have already made of him in a letter to establish a fully independent inquiry under a senior figure whose integrity is beyond question.

A failure by Mr Howard to do this — and to follow the precedent which he set himself at Whitemoor — can lead only to the conclusion that he wishes to avoid the robust scrutiny of his own conduct and that of Mr Lewis which such an inquiry would entail. This is hardly the stance of a confident Minister.

Yours sincerely,  
JACK STRAW,  
House of Commons.  
January 8.

## Road and rail

From Mr Anthony G. Phillips

Sir, Sir Alfred Sherman ("Rail lobby's dead end", December 20; letters, January 4) does well to remind us of the profligacy inherent in public transport, both by rail and by road, and to query why so many commuters rather than use modern technology which is cheaper, less polluting, and more likely to enhance the quality of life, both for the users and those living adjacent to commuter routes.

Attracting people and industry to the South has not only greatly increased the problems in that region; it has also helped to denude other regions of economic progress. For instance, the population of Scotland (less than that of London) has been reducing for decades and continues to do so. Major reductions in road building might well benefit areas of the South, but road improvements in parts of the Highlands (outwith the remit of Mr Mawhinney) would generally be welcomed.

The effect of road building on economic progress is largely unquantified, as the then Roads Minister admitted in a parliamentary written answer on July 14, 1994. The demands on our transport infrastructure have changed markedly, even since the Second World War, especially owing to the loss of our industrial base, yet our thinking on them is largely unaltered.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY G. PHILLIPS,  
32 Upper Street,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

## EU research grants

From Mr Rodney E. B. Atkinson

Sir, Professor Handy (letter, January 3) claims that academic research is benefiting from grants from the European Union. He fails to point out two crucial facts.

First, for every pound which benefits the UK, £1.50 has already been transferred to Europe by British taxpayers. There is therefore no subsidy at all.

Secondly, British research benefited enormously in the past from joint ventures with other countries, particularly with the US, with which country our academic contacts are second to none. But now "European" funds for joint ventures direct academics exclusively to EU colleagues.

A number of important transatlantic links have suffered as a result, and academics are now required to make a political/economic judgment (ie, where is the money?) rather than an academic judgment as to the location of the best joint-venture partner.

It must be particularly galling for British academics to know that it is their own taxes which are being used to distort their academic research.

Yours etc,  
R. E. ATKINSON,  
60 Ashbourne Court,  
Woodside Park Road, N12.  
January 4.

## Animal rights and free speech

From Mr W. Hugo Charlton

Sir, I was surprised to see in your issue on animal rights ("Single issue hooligans", January 5) the perpetuation of the myth that "Britain's political system allows the representation of all points of view".

Freedom of speech is no substitute for properly representative democracy, the absence of which, coupled with the Government's failure to listen, is the cause of so much disillusionment and anger today.

Live animal export is a recent "business" resulting from European legislation and a refusal to act by the British Government. It is almost certainly opposed, in my view, by the large majority of the country. Nonetheless, taxpayers' money is used to protect a grotesque trade which should never have been allowed to develop.

Greens are deeply committed to non-violence, but find it increasingly hard to win this argument in a world where the police are ordered to take sides and profit is a justification for cruelty. Pious condemnation will not prevent violence; government action by regulation to address a legitimate concern for animal welfare remains the best solution.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGO CHARLTON (Law Officer  
and regional councillor, Green Party),  
123 Gloucester Road, SW7.  
January 5.

From Dr Roy van den Brink-Budgen

Sir, Your leader does not acknowledge the special imperative of protests such as that at Shoreham. The intention is to draw attention to a cruel practice, but also to prevent animals from being shipped to the Continent. A quiet march, a question in the House, a postal lobby, a letter to *The Times* — all have a very important place in our political culture, but they are sometimes not enough.

## Labour plans for Scottish devolution

From Dr Alan Sked

Sir I was rather surprised to discover that William Rees-Mogg's analysis of Labour's devolution proposals (January 2; see also letters, January 5) made no reference to Europe. For it is surely Labour's own European policy which renders them null and void.

First, Labour intends to transfer so many powers to Brussels that a Westminster Parliament would have few left over to devolve anywhere else. Secondly, harmonised fiscal policies plus monetary control by a European central bank would make a mockery of pretensions to fiscal sovereignty in Scotland, England or Wales.

Finally, with the demise of our fishing and other industries thanks to Europe, and the development of a common energy policy to mop up our oil profits, it is difficult to imagine how Scotland is supposed to benefit economically at all by Labour's proposals.

Their most likely result would be to increase the burden of bureaucracy and tax. Tragically, and indeed farcically, the Scottish National Party's policy of "Scotland, independent in Europe" (Winifred Ewing's letter) bodes even worse for Scots like myself. Not only is it a contradiction in terms, but one which is so obvious that it insults the Scots' intelligence.

It must be crystal clear, given Scotland's political and tax benefits from the present Union, that any proposals to increase control from Brussels will diminish both her political freedom of action and her standard of living. Unfortunately, if Labour calls another referendum on the subject, we Scots will reject Mr Blair's proposals, just as we rejected Mr Callaghan's.

Yours sincerely,  
ALAN SKED (Leader),  
UK Independent Party,  
80 Regent Street, W1.  
January 3.

## Red squirrels

From Mr Philip Le Brocq

Sir, I can add another red squirrel site to those mentioned by Mr Colin Shanklin in his letter of January 2. Jersey has two thriving colonies, in the southwest and the northeast of the island, made up of 500 or so squirrels. The Jersey Squirrel Project, organised by the States of Jersey Planning and Environment Committee, is to be launched on January 17.

Yours faithfully,  
BERKLEY LE BROCC,  
The Cottage, Le Bourg,  
St Clement, Jersey, CI.

## Pollution in India

From Mr B. C. Hawgood

Sir, The effect of pollution on the Taj Mahal (letters, December 26, January 2) is a serious matter; but surely a more important aspect is the effect of the pollution on the people and all other forms of life in India.

Yours faithfully,  
BERKLEY HAWGOOD,  
10 Bynawelton Road,  
Cefnbyrbrain, Cwmllwynell, Dyfed.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

## Book trade's time to turn new leaf?

From Mr Barry Campbell

Sir, As a major supplier of paper to the book publishing industry, I believe that the authors you quote (report, December 31, 1994) need to know that the issue of quality is more complicated than they perceive.

The acid content of paper is not the main cause of fading or yellowing — this is primarily due to the presence of lignin in the mechanically ground pulp used for lower-priced book paper production. Only 45 per cent of the tree is used if the lignin is removed in the chemical pulping process, leaving the cellulose fibre. This is known as "woodfree" pulp.

Long-life paper must be made from woodfree pulp and without acid sizing. It should not contain recycled fibre either, since lignin could also be present.

Should publishers use high-quality raw materials and binding, and risk low sales because of the inevitable increase in book prices? Or is it better to enable hardback books to be as widely sold as possible?

One solution may be to follow the US and print a short-run first edition on woodfree paper for librarians and collectors, followed by more economically produced longer-run editions. Publishers have to decide during the planning of each book the right quality of production to achieve their objectives.

Yours faithfully,  
BARRY CAMPBELL  
(Associate Director Book Papers),  
Enso Publication Papers Ltd,  
Enso House, New Mill Road,  
Orpington, Kent.  
January 3.

From Professor John Feather  
and others

Sir, Crumbling books are not only a worry for authors and publishers; they also trouble librarians, who are ultimately responsible for the long-term preservation of these works — even (for the benefit of future historians of our culture) those of Lord Archer.

In a survey which we recently conducted of nearly 500 libraries in Great Britain, a significant majority indicated that poor-quality paper and bindings were a cause for concern.

We strongly endorse the view that publishers should whenever possible use the highest quality of paper and other materials for their books. If they do not, those who seek to preserve the heritage which publishers help to create face an even more difficult task.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN FEATHER,  
PAUL EDEN,  
GRAHAM MATTHEWS,  
Loughborough University,  
Department of Information and Library Studies,  
Loughborough, Leicestershire.

## Another liberation

From Mrs Brenda Gurdin

Sir, I was saddened to see that the liberation of the Channel Islands from German occupation had no place in your "1995 anniversaries" diary (December 30, 1994). Does no one remember that these islands were the only part of the United Kingdom to be occupied, for five years?

The liberation of Europe was a great and glorious thing, well remembered during 1994, but next May the islanders will be remembering and celebrating their own liberation, between May 9 and 16, 1945. I am sure a little recognition of their past plight would not come amiss.

Yours sincerely,  
BRENDA GURDIN,  
Rue du Fort, Sark, Channel Islands.

## Acid on stone

From Mr M. F. Tunnicliffe

Sir, If the Church Records ("Here be treasure, but don't forget your thermals", Weekend, December 24, 1994) go round using weak hydrochloric acid on church fittings to identify the material, they should be banned from churches for life. Permanent damage can result from chloride ion penetration into the matrix of the stone.

It is quite possible, if bronze has a sufficient patina of copper carbonate, for it also to "fizz" with weak mineral acid, but with equally harmful long-term effect.

Yours sincerely,  
M. F. TUNNICLIFFE  
(Churchwarden, SS Peter and Paul,  
Wingrave with Rowsam),  
Baldway House,  
Wingrave, Buckinghamshire.

## Bad feeling

From Mr Jim Doyle

Sir, I am fed up with the constant use of the phrase, "the feel-good factor". Where once they spoke of "confidence", "security" and "well-being" we are now assailed with this by TV presenters and others, often several times during a single report. My worry is that this could lead to the "feel-like-punching-my-foot-through-the-TV factor", or even "the feel-like-punch-the-next-idiot-who-says-I-am-in-the-mouth factor".

Yours truly,  
JIM DOYLE,  
46 Highbury Grove,  
Portsmouth, Hampshire.







## OBITUARIES

## LARRY GRAYSON

Larry Grayson, comedian and *Generation Game* host, died in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, on January 7 aged 71. He was born on August 31, 1923.

LARRY GRAYSON built a very long career in showbusiness on a peculiarly English form of camp humour, following in the tradition of Frankie Howard and Kenneth Williams. Unlike Williams, however, there was nothing catty or malicious about Grayson's jokes. His act consisted of injecting sexual innuendo into what seemed at first hearing to be the most banal or innocent remark — the effect being achieved with great economy by an arched eyebrow, a pursed lip or the flick of a wrist. His sketches often revolved around a few stock characters — Slack Alice, Apricot Lil and Everard among them — and were interspersed with catchphrases such as "what a gay day" and "shut that door", which quickly passed into common usage.

Grayson started in showbusiness as a supporting drag act on the comedy club circuit, and was only rewarded for the grueling early years in 1972, when he was given his own variety show, *Shut That Door*. Six years later he took over from Bruce Forsyth — the sort of man whom it would have ruined a lesser comedian to follow — as the host of the popular Saturday evening show, *The Generation Game*. Grayson was charmingly engaging about his success: "I can't sing, I can't dance, I can't play an instrument. But I've done everything from school nativity plays to the London Palladium."

His interest in people — particularly the women from whom he took his largely unscripted routines — was genuine. Much of the material for his acts he claimed to have found sitting behind women on buses. The housewives of Bradford and Bolton were the models for Slack Alice and Apricot Lil, and the idea for Everard had originated with his meeting the unfortunately named 12-year-old son of a landlady in Bradford ("This is Everard," she said, ever so proud. Well, I thought, he won't thank you for that when he's 18, I'm sure.)

When women in shops talked about the pain in their backs, or about "coming over all funny" or "going limp", Grayson listened and took it directly on to the stage, hardly changing a word. Slotted in among the traditional acts in working men's clubs at the time, it was considered rather subversive stuff at first, but proved to go down particularly well with the women in the audience, who detected, beneath Grayson's camp posturing, a form of flattery.

Grayson's "shut that door" catchphrase, on the other hand, was said to have been born backstage in his dressing room one night when an



exasperated agent wanted a private talk with him, and had to remind people to "shut that door" every time there was an interruption. Another night on stage, Grayson was plagued by the sounds of doors banging in the draughty theatre, remembered the agent and called out on a whim "shut that door". For some reason, this brought the house down, though Grayson professed to be as non-plussed as anyone else as to why.

Yet, for all Grayson's good humour, he remained something of a loner within the business, and was a very rare sight indeed at London showbusiness parties. Interviewers who hoped to separate the man from the stage act had a hard time of it as, for the most part, Grayson was always "on" in company — he dreaded being boring. He never married, living in Nuneaton with his pet poodles and his adoptive sister Pam, who had brought him up when his adoptive mother died and to whom he was devoted. But he was outraged by journalists who suggested that he might be homosex-

ual. He spent the last decade relying increasingly on pantomime work, as the old Variety circuit on which he had made his way up died.

William White, as he was born, was the illegitimate son of a factory foreman, who had refused to marry his mother. He was adopted by a mining family in Nuneaton, and knew his mother only as Aunt Ethel until he was eight, his adoptive mother having died when he was six.

Meanwhile, as a rather sickly child, he had begun performing at school, charging the other children cigarette cards to hear his act. His career began in earnest at the age of 14 when he left school — having lasted only two days as a salesman in a shoeshop — when a neighbour invited him to join a cabaret at the Pile Street Club. He appeared in a white suit singing "The Bushes at the Bottom of the Garden", which he accompanied by knowing nods and glances at the audience. He then toured the villages of Devon and Cornwall with a show called the Four Blue Pages, dressed in drag with

sequins, feathers, wigs and gowns. Renamed Billy Breen, he served a tough apprenticeship as a drag act in music halls and Northern clubs: "I always say it took me 34 years to get out of a dress and into a suit." He changed his name to Larry Grayson on the advice of an agent, but success seemed as elusive as ever. Then in 1969 he was taken to hospital with three burst stomach ulcers, and afterwards suffered a severe nervous breakdown. Realising that he had almost died, he pulled himself together, and tried to make a success of his career with renewed vigour.

A year later, in January 1971 he got his real break when ATV signed him up for a four-minute spot on three Saturday Variety shows. Grayson went down well, and his contract was extended to six shows, then to 12 and finally to 16. With that, he was given his own television series, *Shut That Door*, in 1972. It was a variety and chat show which relied heavily for its success on guest performers, but which kept Grayson occupied for five years until the call came for him to take over from Bruce Forsyth as the host of the BBC's *Generation Game*.

It was *The Generation Game*, more than anything, which really made Grayson. Added by Isla St Clair, a woman who lacked the glamour of Forsyth's blonde hostess (and later wife) Anthea Redfern, but who worked well with Grayson — the two made a warm welcoming committee for the contestants, relaxing them ready for the ritual trials and humiliations of the game itself. Grayson never tried to imitate Forsyth: he remained camp where Forsyth had flirted with his contestants, and mothered them where Forsyth had cajoled. But Grayson was undoubtedly good at it, bringing the ratings up to more than 18 million, and had the show renamed after him.

At Christmas 1981 Grayson said an emotional farewell to the audience, and retired from television. However, after six years of self-imposed exile he decided to return, staging a comeback in 1987 with Anglia's *Sweethearts* — a dismal game show for courting couples which did nothing to revive his career.

Grayson never did return to television after that, though he remained a great favourite in pantomimes — skittish and somewhat unreliable when it came to following the script, but an inspired live performer. "In all my 140 years in showbusiness, I can honestly say I don't think I've ever worked with a nicer group of people," he would assure each new audience, twice a day for six weeks each year, tongue — as ever — firmly in cheek. His health, which was never good, deteriorated quickly after an operation for a burst appendix on New Year's Day.

## HARRY GOLOMBEK

Harry Golombek, OBE, International Chess Grandmaster, three times British Champion, chess correspondent of *The Times*, 1945-85, and of *The Observer*, 1955-79, died on January 7 aged 83. He was born in London on March 1, 1911.



BRITISH chess has experienced a remarkable renaissance in the last decade or so, culminating in the challenge by Nigel Short for the world championship itself in London in 1993. That challenge was supported by *The Times*. None of this would have been thinkable without the contribution of Harry Golombek. He was not only one of Britain's leading players and writers, but also the doyen of British chess journalists and one of the longest-serving writers on *The Times*, occupying the post of the paper's chess correspondent for 40 years.

Through his play, his writing, his encouragement of young players and his indefatigable efforts in raising the profile of the game and securing sponsorship for it, Golombek was the chief figure in the resurgence of chess in this country.

Harry Golombek was educated at Wilson's Grammar School and then London University. One of his earliest chess successes was to win the London Boys' championship in 1929 and after this he advanced to represent England in the three world team championships at Warsaw in 1935, Stockholm in 1937 and Buenos Aires in 1939. Returning from South America, he rendered brilliant service, during the war, as a code-breaker at Bletchley Park, but his chess career was only to reach its peak after the end of the war. He went on to win the British championships of 1947, 1949 and 1955 and played on a high board for England in a further six Olympiads, while his excellent result at the Zonal Tournament of Bad Pyrmont, 1951, made him the first Englishman to qualify for the inter-zonal stage of the World Championship.

Golombek's chess talents were not limited solely to prowess over the board. He was active in the affairs of the World Chess Federation (Fide), being a member since 1952 of the Rules Commission and for three decades the English delegate to the annual Fide congresses. He officiated as arbiter in numerous important competitions and a measure of Fide's reliance on him was reflected by his appointment as arbiter for no fewer than six world championship matches.

As a writer and journalist he was both prolific and lucid. Apart from his editorial work for the *British Chess Magazine*, he wrote many books, some of them classics, which inspired later generations to learn and love the game of chess. In addition, his weekly column in *The Times* became a major means of publicising chess, and one where he defended, in elegant forceful style, his own firm view that chess should be counted as a form of artistic expression, not simply as a game or sport or fodder for statistics and variations.

His most important publications were anthologies of the best games of Capablanca and Réti; accounts of the World Championships of 1948, 1954 and 1957; *The Game of Chess*, *A History of Chess* and the *Encyclopaedia of Chess* which he edited. The last of these

became the standard reference work for chess writers the world over. In 1966 he was appointed OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours, the first person to receive this honour on account of services to chess. He was also active in encouraging sponsorship for chess and for promising young players, and was a leading light of the Friends of Chess organisation, which was specifically set up for this purpose.

He continued to play chess until late in life. In the summer of 1984 he tied for first place in the Grieverson Grant British Veterans' Championship, inflicting a particularly brilliant defeat on his co-victor, P.C. Hoad. At the World Chess Federation Congress in 1985, the British Chess Federation successfully submitted Golombek's name for the rare award of the title of International Grandmaster, for his outstanding past achievements in competitive chess.

In person, Harry Golombek was possessed of sharp and amusing wit and was much sought after as a speaker at chess functions. For over half a century he was an outstanding figure in English and international chess and to countless chess enthusiasts around the globe his name was better known than that of the reigning world champion. He was unmarried.

## GORDON W. BENNETT

Gordon W. Bennett, educationist, died from cancer on December 16 aged 62. He was born in New York State on July 10, 1931.

THE unusual career of Gordon Bennett, an exuberant scholar and entrepreneurial educationist, could have been said to have dated back to the day when he was 17 and had just entered into an apprenticeship with an American railway company in Schenectady in New York State.

Required as part of an exercise in drafting technique to demonstrate his handwriting, he copied out Keats's "Ode on a Grecian Urn". The instructor announced publicly that the only "yurns" they had on trains were "yurnals" and held the poem up to mockery. The young man then and there decided that the railway was not for him.

He presented himself instead at New York State Teaching College in Albany. There, on the basis of an outstanding school record, he was instantly offered a scholarship. He took his BA and MA at Albany and later obtained his PhD at the University of Kansas at Lawrence, with a dissertation on the later work of Edith Sitwell and the Baroque Tradition.

He spent his earliest professional years as a schoolteacher, moving into university teaching in 1956, with posts at Kansas, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and then for five years was Professor of English and Dean of Humanities at New Hampshire College in New Hampshire.

During a sabbatical year in

1968, spent with his first wife, Elizabeth, and five daughters on a literary pilgrimage to Britain, he came up with the then pioneering idea of establishing a branch campus in England of his home university.

That dream was realised only two years later when the whole family moved into an empty girls' school in Arundel, Sussex. New England College, British Campus, with Gordon Bennett as its head, opened in September 1971, offering a full



four-year American BA programme, and breaking new ground in international education.

It was his move to England (which he later came to describe as his "adopted country") and this first taste of being an academic entrepreneur that took his professional work in the direction which was to bring him rare experience and a distinctive role in the educational world. He was the acknowledged authority on the founding and develop-

ment of American universities overseas.

He moved from Arundel to gain accreditation for other American campuses: Richmond College in Surrey; University College of Northern Cyprus; and, most recently, a degree-conferring branch of Huron University in Kensington, of which he was provost at the time of his death.

With his own less than privileged background and a slightly impish streak — he took a delight in introducing himself to English audiences as "Gordon Bennett" — he also had a profound commitment towards trying to ensure that opportunities to full higher education were available to all — whatever their financial circumstances, nationalities or, in some cases, their countries' political restrictions.

After attending numerous worthy academic conventions, he founded, virtually off his own bat, the International Society for Contemporary Literature and Theatre (or ISCLT), as he characteristically diminished its somewhat ponderous title). It is almost wholly due to his organisational skills and energy as executive secretary that this body still thrives today.

In the 1970s he underwent a potentially crippling spinal operation which affected his walk but, typically, he allowed it to have no influence on the worldwide travel his work demanded.

His first marriage ended in divorce in 1984 and that same year he married again. His second wife, Nancy, survives him together with the five daughters of his first marriage and a stepson from his second.

## PROFESSOR PAUL TURNER

Paul Turner, CBE, Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, University of London, 1972-93, died of a heart attack while attending church on Christmas Day aged 61. He was born on April 16, 1933.



A LEADING clinical pharmacologist and an influential figure in medical circles, Paul Turner was regularly called on to contribute his specialist knowledge to official advisory bodies and committees in his chosen field, many of which he chaired expertly.

Educated at the Ruan School for Boys, Blackheath, and at the University of London, he started his career with appointments at the Medical Research Council's Institute of Psychiatry and St John's Hospital at the Royal Free Hospital where he was senior house officer to Professor (later Dame) Sheila Sherlock, and at the Edgeware General Hospital.

In 1963 he moved to St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College to take up the position of lecturer in pharmacology and he spent the remainder of his professional career there, holding the Chair of Clinical Pharmacology from 1972 until his retirement in 1993.

At the Royal School of Medicine, he held several key positions — as vice-president, as honorary editor, as a member of council and as president of the Section of Medicine, Experimental

Medicine and Therapeutics during his 16 years' fellowship, culminating in his election as the society's first academic dean with responsibility for overseeing the programme of continuing medical education. He chaired the British Pharmacological Codex Revision Committee, the DHSS Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment, the expert working group on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, the advisory board on Homeopathic Registration, the committee of Directors of the National Poisons Information Service and the UK advisory board of the "Prix Galien".

He served as a vice-chairman of the British Pharmacopoeia Commission, and as a member of several academic committees of the University of London and of a number of advisory boards concerned with foods and food poisons.

He published more than 600 papers in his field, and co-edited a number of influential textbooks and conference proceedings, including those of the first World Conference on Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics held in London in August 1980. He held a number of visiting professorships both in the United States and Australia.

A deeply religious man, he had completed 18 months of the three-year St Albans and Oxford ministry course with a view to becoming ordained as a non-stipendiary minister. He was part-time organist for several local churches in Berkshire and had occupied the pulpit on many occasions. Had he been spared a few moments longer, he would have preached the sermon at his local Parish Mass on Christmas morning.

Turner enjoyed international travel both in the company of his family and in a professional capacity, and his breadth of interests encompassed good food and wine, as well as piano and organ music. He was a convivial companion and colleague, and a devoted family man.

Paul Turner is survived by his wife Katie, and by two daughters.

## EUGENE WIGNER

Eugene Wigner, Nobel Prize-winning physicist, died in Princeton, New Jersey, on January 1 aged 92. He was born in Budapest on November 17, 1902.

BUDAPEST at the turn of the century was the birthplace of a group of scientists who were to transform the modern world, and Eugene Wigner was not the least of them. A quantum theorist, he played a key role in the development of the first atomic bomb.

Initially trained as a chemical engineer at the Berlin Institute of Technology, he became friendly with fellow Hungarians, Edward Teller and Leo Szilard, in his early twenties, and soon became involved in the turmoil of modern physics. By 1928 he had already produced six pioneering papers on group theory and quantum mechanics, and two years later left Germany to take up a post at Princeton University where he quickly made major contributions to nuclear physics.

Throughout the 1930s he worked on theories to explain how protons and neutrons are bound together in atomic nuclei, and how free neutrons could be absorbed. It was in 1939 that Wigner, learnt that two German scientists had uncovered the possibility of a nuclear chain reaction, and feared that the discovery might lead to a devastating military weapon.

Together with Szilard and Enrico Fermi, he approached Albert Einstein and persuaded him to alert President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the fact that an atomic bomb was probably feasible and that Hitler might build it first. Their warning led the United States to start the Manhattan Project to build the first nuclear device.

Wigner was present on the squash court of the University of Chicago on December 2, 1942, when the world's first controlled nuclear reaction took place and a neutron counter began clicking wildly. "For some time," he later recalled, "we had known that we were about to unlock a great secret. Still, we could not escape an eerie feeling when we knew we had actually done it."

The consequences were the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Wigner had thrown himself into designing reactors to make plutonium for them, but by the time the war in Europe was over he became convinced that the actual use of the weapon was unnecessary.

Wigner returned to Princeton after the war to pursue his theoretical studies, and was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1963 for the wide range of his contribution to quantum mechanics. He was also the recipient of numerous international awards and no fewer than 27 honorary degrees.

He is survived by his wife Eileen and by one son and two daughters.

## University news

Bradford Dr Friedric Weinert, formerly of Victoria University, New Zealand, to be lecturer in Philosophy in the Department of Interdisciplinary Human Studies  
Dr Narayan Taware, formerly of UMIST, to be lecturer in Chemical Engineering in the Department of Chemical Engineering  
Dr Jonathan Lee, formerly of Newcastle University, to be lecturer in Chemical Engineering in the Department of Chemical Engineering from February 6  
Dr Kiril Hoshenkov, formerly of Loughborough University, to be lecturer in Environmental Acoustics in the Department of Civil Engineering  
Dr Angelica Burger, formerly

of the National Institute of Health in the USA, to be Research Fellow in Clinical Oncology  
Awards  
Dr Robert Lomas of the Management Centre and Dr Chakib Kara-Zaitri of the Department of Industrial Technology have been awarded £146,914 by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, the Huddersfield NHS Trust and the National Health Service Training Division for a three year Teaching Company Scheme to computerise information recorded by health-care professionals as they visit patients.  
The Development and Project Planning Centre has been awarded £495,371 by the Overseas Development Adminis-

tration to undertake training, consultancy and research for three years on women in public life in Ghana.  
Sussex  
Professorial appointments  
Michael Frederick Dunford, Senior Lecturer in Geography, promoted to Professor of Economic Geography  
Peter Bevington Smith, Director of the Centre for Research into Cross-Cultural Organisation and Management, University of Sussex and Roffey Park Management Institute, promoted to Professor of Social Psychology  
William Barclay Walker, Director of Research, Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex, promoted to Professorial Fellow in the Science Policy Research Unit

Edward Allen Hinds, formerly Professor of Physics at Yale University, to the Chair in Experimental Physics  
Harry Hyman Rajak, formerly of King's College, London, to the Chair in Law  
Honorary degrees  
At the Winter Graduation Ceremony on January 26 the following will receive honorary degrees:  
Professor Leszek Balcerowicz, Polish economist and politician, and Mrs Sybil Marshall, author and educationalist, will both receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters  
Mr Laszlo Istvan Heljay, Director, Brighton Festival Chorus, former Musical Director at the Gardner Centre, University of Sussex, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Music

THE EARTHQUAKE  
THE RUINS OF MESSINA  
(from our special correspondent)  
MESSINA, JAN 6 (via Syracuse, Jan 8)

I spent to-day examining the wreck of Messina, and what I saw has confirmed the opinion expressed in my telegram of yesterday. The city is an utter, hopeless ruin. Indeed, the disaster is even more complete and more dreadful than I supposed. Great stone structures are smashed as though they had been eggshells, entire streets are piled up with impassable heaps of debris, and such facades as are standing screen interiors fallen to the ground. It is like mountain climbing to penetrate the city, and indeed those whose duty it is to work among the ruins are providing themselves with alpenstocks.  
The Cathedral has almost all tumbled in a mass of brick, stucco, and stone. Part of the west facade stands and some of the quaint early Gothic carving is not much damaged and will probably be removed. Near the Cathedral I met two priests sorrowfully carrying a silver candlestick, which was all they had been able to recover. At one place in the body of a girl had just been recovered and at another there was a little group of officers who, as I approached, motioned me

## ON THIS DAY

January 9 1909

Messina was a "flourishing and beautiful city" when early in the morning of December 28 1908 "one of the most disastrous earthquakes ever recorded destroyed it totally".

to silence. With straining eyes they were watching the tremen dig out a young girl who still lived.

I turned the corner and saw a number of soldiers and workmen entering the gate of what seemed to have been a large garden. I followed and found men digging a series of enormous trenches. One of them was already full and covered with quicklime.

I hurried away and met an old woman who had been allowed to examine the ruins of her home. All she had found was a brush, which

she was carrying away. She told me that all her sons and daughters had been killed. A tiny kitten was playing among the debris; soldiers saw and shot it. Every few yards there was a dead cat or dog. The troops have been ordered to kill these animals on sight owing to occurrences which are better left untold.

I visited a hospital ship which was about to sail. It was full of injured. All the nurses were Royal or titled ladies, leaders of Roman society, who were doing heroic work. The authorities were most unwilling to let them undertake it, but there was no denying them.

Even a trained nurse would have shuddered at the task, but only one of these noble women found her strength insufficient. When I visited the hospital ship the nurses needed everything — drugs, bedding, and clothing. The doctor of the Canopus arrived and after taking one look he hurried off to get permission to empty his ship of supplies. In one ward were an injured girl and her brother stroking each other's hands. They had not seen each other since the earthquake.  
One can distinguish at a glance those one meets in the streets who were here on that awful morning from those who arrived afterwards. The survivors of the earthquake are quite helpless, and the work is being done by labourers brought in by the Government.



## NEWS

## Two Parkhurst escapers caught

Two of the three prisoners who escaped from Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight were recaptured by police. Keith Rose, 44, and Andrew Rodger 44, were cornered less than a mile from the Cowes ferry terminal. The third man, Matthew Williams, escaped after being chased by police who swamped the area.

The men are believed to have been sighted about two miles from East Cowes. An eyewitness said: "There were police everywhere. They seemed to come from nowhere".....Page 1

## Russians blockade presidential palace

The Russian Government said that its troops had blockaded President Dudayev's palace in the centre of Grozny, the Chechen capital. Troops were within 70 yards of the former Communist Party headquarters.....Pages 1, 9

## Major's EU promise

John Major made a new attempt to reduce tensions over Europe by pledging to block big constitutional changes at next year's EU conference.....Pages 1, 2

## Body found in forest

The British environmentalist missing in the Madagascan rain forests has been found dead close to the spot where he disappeared more than a week ago.....Page 1

## Titan reward

A reward of between £50,000 and £100,000 is expected to be offered for the £5-million Titan painting stolen over the weekend in a daring raid on Longleat House, home of Lord Bath.....Page 3

## Union deal ruled out

The Labour leadership ruled out any deals with the trade unions to help Tony Blair in his attempt to rewrite Clause 4 of the party constitution.....Page 2

## West book dispute

Police are to investigate claims that one of the officers at the centre of the investigation into Frederick West, the alleged serial murderer, tried to sell her story for £1 million.....Page 3

## Veal campaign

The Agriculture Minister, William Waldegrave, came under renewed pressure after conceding that calves from his farm might end up in veal crates when exported to the Continent.....Page 4

## Updating a picture of Dorian Gray

A natural hormone produced by the body could soon be used, Dorian Gray-style, to delay the effects of ageing. Professor Etienne-Emile Baulieu of France's national medical research institute says that the hormone could help to defer wrinkles, muscle fatigue, rheumatism, bone fragility, memory loss and some cancers.....Page 1

## Nursery vouchers

Parents of three and four-year-olds should receive up to £5,000 a year in vouchers to buy places in private nursery schools, said the Adam Smith Institute.....Page 5

## Computers galore

Fifteen people living in remote parts of the Western Isles have won a reference service contract putting them at the forefront of the computer age.....Page 6

## Portrait of Britain

The British are a nation of video addicts, obsessed with driving on congested motorways, and who have forsaken the traditional diet of beef and beer in favour of chicken and lager, says the handbook *Britain 1995*.....Page 6

## Auschwitz row

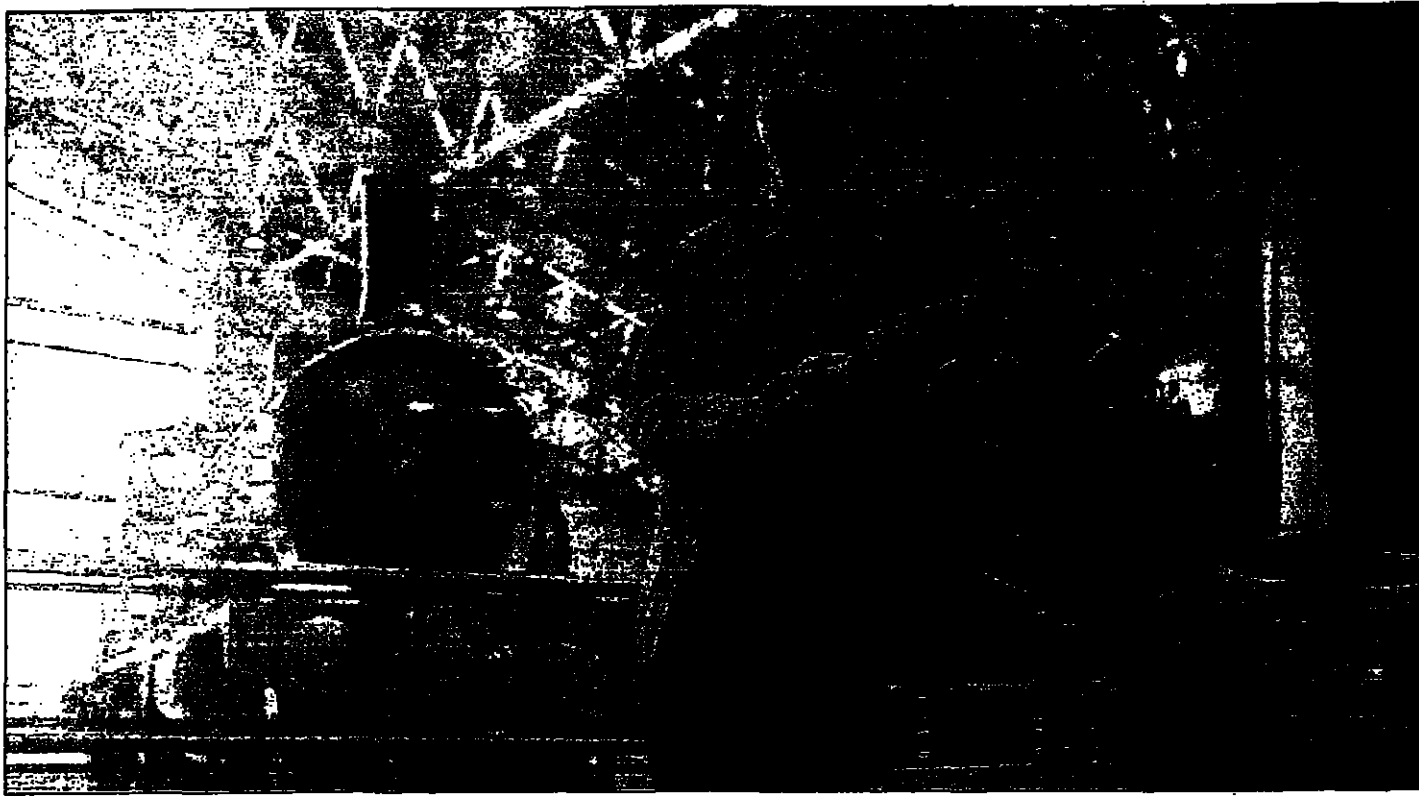
Embarrassing rows and recriminations are overshadowing plans to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Soviet army's liberation of Auschwitz.....Page 8

## Democratic strategy

The White House has settled on a strategy now that the Republicans run Congress. Everything President Clinton says or does will promote him as a middle class champion.....Page 10

## Israeli scandal

A scandal enveloped Israel after allegations that the Labour Party conspired with the Palestine Liberation Organisation to win the 1992 election.....Page 10



Colin Davall of York University, who has become the world's first Professor of Railway Studies, at work in the National Railway Museum.

## BUSINESS

**Euro business threat:** The Brussels directive requiring European businesses to set up works councils is likely to affect 300 UK companies rather than the 100 that were initially estimated.....Page 40

**Naval base sale:** Portland Naval base is being considered for sale to the Japanese as an exclusive entry point for goods into Europe. The base, due to close early next year, has sheltered anchorage and the package includes Europe's largest man-made harbour and 350 acres of portside facilities.....Page 40

**Electric battle:** Trafalgar House will step up its battle to take over Northern Electric today when it forces an extraordinary general meeting on the electricity company's shareholders.....Page 40

## ARTS

**Music of history:** The Vienna Musikverein, the most famous concert hall in the world, has just celebrated its 125th birthday. Richard Morrison heard Riccardo Muti and the Vienna Philharmonic re-create the inaugural programme.....Page 12

**London theatre:** Young actors tackle Strindberg's classic drama, here retitled *Lady Julia*, without much success. Virginia Woolf's rumination novel *To the Lighthouse* is adapted for the stage with bewildering results.....Page 12

**Welcome back:** Covent Garden ballerina Darcey Bussell missed the entire run of *The Sleeping Beauty* because of surgery on her ankle. On her return, she gave a superb performance in the Royal Ballet's *Swan Lake*.....Page 13

**The ice mother:** What is the connection between the five-kilometre high Tibetan mountain plateau and the origins of the human race? Martin Ince on Maureen Raymo's research.....Page 14

**New dimension:** Dr Rahim Nader has tried to define how human eyes perceive the world in order to create convincing 3-D films.....Page 14

**Not kids' stuff:** The reluctance of schools to join the information superhighway may be attributed to the pornography accessible on the Internet.....Page 35

**Football:** Robert Lee's equaliser secured a replay for Newcastle United against Blackburn Rovers in the FA Cup third round.....Page 21

**FA Cup driver:** Wrexham's reward for victory over Ipswich is a fourth-round tie against the winners of tonight's game between Manchester United and Sheffield United.....Page 24

**Golf:** Andy Woolnough, defeated Michael Macphie by 4 and 3 to claim the President's Putter at Rye.....Page 23

**Rugby league:** Wigan booked their place in the semi-final of the Regal Trophy with an injury-time try at Central Park against St Helens.....Page 23

**Crickets:** England improved their chances of reaching the finals of the World Series Cup with a 26-run victory over Zimbabwe. Australia beat Australia A.....Page 22

**England A:** Mark Ilett, the Essex fast bowler, picked up a side injury as England A fought to restrict a Board President's XI to 255 for three in India.....Page 22

**Rugby union:** Bath clawed back a 9-0 deficit to beat their local rivals, Bristol, 10-9, and stay on top of the Courage Clubs Championship.....Page 28

**Sport focus:** Victoria Davis experienced the thrill of dinghy sailing on the Norfolk Broads.....Page 29

**Going to the dogs:** Simon Willmet samples a sport that is in search of a new image.....Page 28

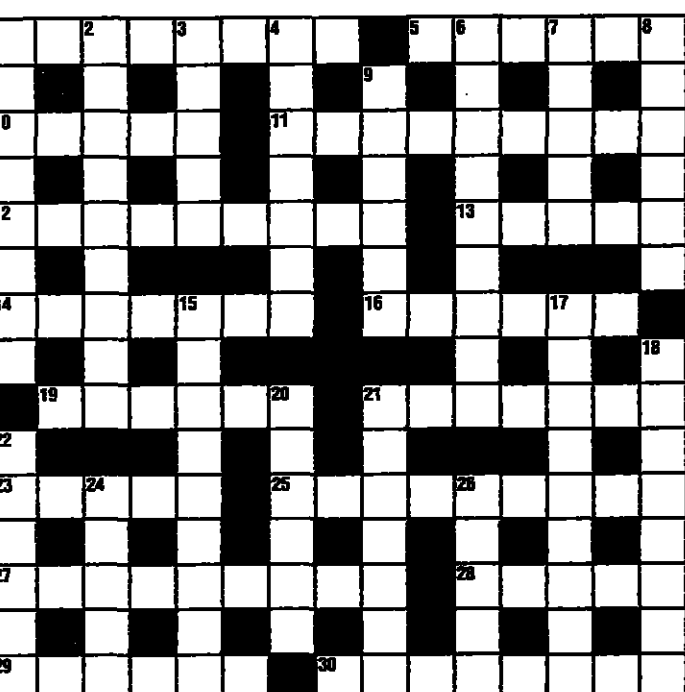
## IN THE TIMES

**YOUNG VISIONS**  
Richard Cork on what Andy Warhol did (left) before he discovered Pop Art

**CURTAIN UP**  
Find out how to take a friend to an evening at the theatre for only 20p



## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,747



## ACROSS

- 1 Weapon may recoil awkwardly if one is abstracted (5)
- 5 Fruitful investment by City in stock (6)
- 10 Charge when netting river fish (5)
- 11 Making electricity safe after number in narrow escape (4,5)
- 12 Unbalanced article introducing staff at University opening (2,3,4)
- 13 Get up around noon and wash (5)
- 14 Malt includes cold dish (7)
- 16 Paintings returned, withdrawn as worthless (6)
- 19 Retired, holding reception initially - that's natural (6)
- 21 Some tungsten drills incorporated in plant (7)
- 23 Entrance for church member (5)
- 25 Prime equipment enabling one to start climbing (5,4)
- 27 Not a clue one contrived to inject (9)

## DOWN

- 28 Starts to prepare ingredients launching an unusual rice dish (5)
- 29 Not a lot to record (6)
- 30 Destroyer mostly refitted in stages (8)
- 1 Copper gets money out of East End thief (3)
- 2 Sailor abroad has to translate military order (5,4)
- 3 I object to general brawl (5)
- 4 More offensive talk causing resentment (7)
- 6 Divert to take on board (9)
- 7 Head off foot trouble exposing joint (5)
- 8 Pursued with tenacity (6)
- 9 Father getting over split from mother, say (6)
- 15 Foremost soldier to get up on horseback (9)
- 17 Larks in chestnut, possibly, make music (9)
- 18 Versatile, as was Drake's journey (3,5)
- 20 Notes impounded by court put up to meet costs (6)
- 21 Anguish suffered by people in wrong (7)
- 22 Schoolmaster is inside for break (6)
- 24 Sailors have a party on deck (5)
- 26 Get slimmer and lighter (5)

## KNOCKKARDS

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,746 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockkards, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a fine leather credit card wallet.

Times Two Crossword, page 40

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0591 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Code
Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
South East	704
South West	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
North East	708
North West	709
Yorkshire	710
East of England	711
West of England	712
South of England	713
North of England	714
Scotland	715
Wales	716
North Wales	717
South Wales	718
London & SE England	719
SE England	720
SW England	721
Wales & SW England	722
Wales & NW England	723
Wales & NE England	724
Wales & SE England	725
Wales & NW England	726
Wales & NE England	727
Wales & SE England	728
Wales & NW England	729
Wales & NE England	730

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Code
London & SE England	731
SE England	732
SW England	733
Wales & SW England	734
Wales & NW England	735
Wales & NE England	736
Wales & SE England	737
Wales & NW England	738
Wales & NE England	739
Wales & SE England	740
Wales & NW England	741
Wales & NE England	742
Wales & SE England	743
Wales & NW England	744
Wales & NE England	745
Wales & SE England	746
Wales & NW England	747
Wales & NE England	748
Wales & SE England	749
Wales & NW England	750

## HIGHEST &amp; LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay, Cwyd, 13C (55F); lowest day temp: Great Ouse, Suffolk, 4C (39F); highest night temp: Llandudno, 10C (50F); lowest night temp: Llandudno, 4C (39F).

## HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 8.04 am; Sun sets: 4.12 pm; Moon rises: 1.02 am; Moon sets: 11.27 am.

## GENERAL

General: a depression moving east over northern Scotland will bring cold and severe gale-force winds to many northern areas.

## LONDON, SE ENGLAND, E ANGLES

London, SE England, E Angles, Midlands: rather cloudy with a little rain or drizzle at times. Wind westerly fresh. Max 9C (48F).

## CENTRAL S ENGLAND, CHANNELED ISLES, SW ENGLAND, WALES

Central S England, Channeled Isles, SW England, Wales: cloudy with rain or drizzle. Wind westerly fresh or strong. Max 10C (50F).

## E ENGLAND, NW ENGLAND, LAKE DISTRICT, ISLE OF MAN, CENTRAL N ENGLAND, SW SCOTLAND, GLASGOW

E England, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: cloudy with rain, heavy at times during the day. Wind westerly strong, occasionally gale force. Max 9C (48F).

## NE ENGLAND, BORDERS, EDINBURGH &amp; DUNDEE

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: rain or showers but some brighter spells at times. Wind westerly strong to gale force. Max 10C (50F).

## ABERDEEN, CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, MORAY FIRTH, ARGYLL

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll: rain clearing to occasional squally showers. Wind westerly strong to gale, occasionally severe gale force. Max 9C (48F).

## NE SCOTLAND, NW SCOTLAND, ORKNEY, SHETLAND

NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: rain or squally heavy showers, turning wintry later. Wind west veering north-west strong to gale. Max 6C (43F).

## OUTLOOK FOR TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: continuing unsettled with rain or showers and gradually turning colder from the north.

## SUNNY

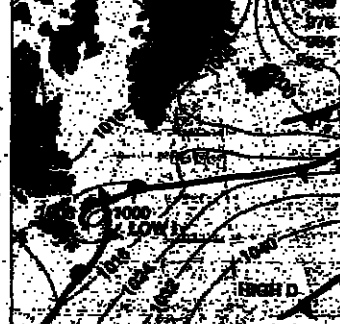
Sunny intervals; Cloudy; Drizzle; Overcast; Rain; Sunny showers; Sleet; Lightning; Hail; Snow.

## TEMPERATURE (CELSIUS)

Wind speed (mph) and direction; Sea conditions.

## CHANGES TO THE CHART BELOW FROM NOON: LOW E WILL FILL AND DRIFT SLOWLY EASTWARDS

Low H will deepen and move eastwards. Low I will maintain central pressure and move northwards. High D will be slow-moving with little change.



## TODAY

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.42	6.50	7.23	6.54
Aberdeen	7.04	3.57	7.08	3.70
Agincourt	-	-	2.11	10.51
Belfast	4.50	2.85	8.10	3.04
Cardiff	-	-	2.25	10.51
Doncaster	10.43	4.59	11.19	4.39
Dover	2.16	5.55	4.55	5.28
Dublin	5.51	3.45	5.45	3.58
Falmouth	11.02	4.28	11.28	4.05
Glasgow	5.55	4.05	8.18	3.58
Harwich	4.51	1.55	5.07	2.55
Holyhead	3.49	4.54	4.55	4.77
Hull	11.28	5.55	-	-
Isle of Man	11.23	7.44	11.45	7.27
King's Lynn	-	-	0.17	6.04

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## GOLF

## RUGBY UNION

# SPORT FOR ALL

22

# Thorpe and England sweat it out

23

# President's Putter produces Rye smiles

28

New year  
brings  
no change  
to old  
order

29

## Steering a course into uncharted waters

# TIMES SPORT



Sutton, the £5 million striker, beats Venison, Peacock and the falling goalkeeper, Srnicek, to give Blackburn Rovers a deserved first-half lead in their dramatic, if ultimately unresolved, FA Cup tie at Newcastle yesterday.

## Blackburn held in rousing FA Cup third-round tie

# Lee revives ailing Newcastle

**BY ROB HUGHES**  
**FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT**

The game's importance was clear beforehand in the streets and in the boardroom. Outside, exposed to the most biting of northerly winds, the Georgie supporters strolled wearing nothing from the waist up but replica team shirts and forrowed brows. In the chairman's suite, Sir John

So it was. Peacock had been so vulnerable under attack from Sutton that uncertainty spread like a disease amongst

Sunderland or C  
Scarborough or  
Burnley v Birmin  
Bristol City or  
Matches to be played

**Stills v Tottenham**  
**Stafford v Stoke**  
**Tottenham vs Blackburn**  
**Stoke vs Arsenal**

Lee was the first to point out after the game that confidence, lacking because of so many necessary team changes, has been the real problem on Tyneside.

Keegan, angered by the way some folk in Newcastle have told him his team is rubbish, had said: "The doom and

**NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-2):** P Smacek — B Venson, D Peacock, S Howley, J Beresford — R Fox, P Broadwell, R Lea, R Elliott (sub P Kilson, 72min) — P Beardsley, A Cole.

**BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2):** T Flowers — H Berg, P Wainwright, C Hendry, G Le Saux — S Ripley (sub M Newell, 44), M Athins, T Sherwood, J Wiza — A Shearer, C Sutton.

Referee: D Galloway.

## FA CUP FOURTH ROUND DRAW

**Sheff Wed v Millwall v Wrexham**  
**Walsall v Luton v Southend**  
**Bury or Tranmere v Wrexham**  
**Notts County or Millwall v Walsall**  
**North Forest v Crystal Palace**  
**Portsmouth v Luton**  
**Coventry or West Brom v Norwich**  
**QPR v West Ham**  
**Luton or Bristol Rovers v Southampton**  
**Newcastle or Blackburn v Swansea or Middlesbrough**  
**Sheff Wed v Wolverhampton**  
**Walsall or Leeds v Oldham**  
**Sunderland or Carlisle v Tottenham**  
**Scarborough or Watford v Blackburn**  
**Barnley v Birmingham or Blackpool**  
**Bristol City or Stoke v Walsall**

*Matches to be played on January 19th 1996*

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Offer subject to stock availability.



# Motson levels score with help from Walsall

John Motson may not have had much of a World Cup final, but he had a great third round of the FA Cup. Not only did he get to deliver the commentary from the BBC's live game at St James' Park yesterday, but Chris Nicholl and Walsall ensured that it was Motson, not the goalless Barry Davies at nearby St Andrew's, who had top slot for *Match of the Day*. Revenge, as they say, is a dish best eaten in a sheepskin car-coat.

On paper, Newcastle United v Blackburn Rovers seemed a slightly curious choice for the BBC. After all, as their anchor men never tired of telling us, the third round is giant-killing time. "Bring on the big names and bring on the banana skins," Steve Rider enthused on *Grandstand*. "The most exciting weekend of

the football season," Des Lynam promised on Saturday evening: "with fans of 64 clubs, big and small, dreaming of a final at Wembley." So why, when the BBC has first choice of all 32 ties, did it pick the only match that pitted one Premiership side against another?

Well, as the weekend's results once again proved, predicting giant-killing is only one step down from winning the National Lottery. You can dispatch your camera crews to the four corners of the country and there is still no guarantee that the someone will put one over on their Premiership peers.

However, long before the inconclusive final whistle went at St James' Park, the BBC had done the Corinthian traditions of the third round proud. It



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

may have taken Gubba until *Match of the Day* to describe Altrincham as a team of "electricians, window cleaners and plasterers", but that warm feeling of footballing familiarity had started spreading long before — from *Football Focus*, in fact.

While Motson lobbed in some archive upsets of yesterday — Hereford, Sutton United, Woking — Garry Richardson was dispatched to Aylesbury in search of a new generation of would-be Da-

vids. He settled for Cliff Hercules, a striker with a nice line in goals and self-deprecating repartee: "The only thing Les Ferdinand and I have in common is that we both wear football boots."

Before Aylesbury waddle their way back to the Diadora League, Hercules and his team can enjoy one last 15 minutes of fame next weekend, with the latest — and possibly last — instalment of Nick Halling's reports from the Cup's early rounds for Sky's

*Sports Saturday*. The reports started back in August, when the producers selected Bournemouth FC at random from the preliminary round. Through a policy of following the winner, the focus has moved from Bournemouth, to Basingsstoke, to Newport, Isle of Wight, where it stayed for the last three qualifying rounds.

Now that Queens Park Rangers have ended Aylesbury's dreams, it has yet to be decided whether this particular road to Wembley will be continued. Top clubs can be less accommodating when it comes to granting access.

This weekend the programme was in rather less sentimental mood, relegating most of the non-league action to the position that experience, rather than hope, says it deserves. Like *Match of the*

*Day*, Paul Dempsey and team preferred to concentrate on more realistic upset possibilities, such as Birmingham v Liverpool, Wrexham v Ipswich and the two games that the channel had exclusive highlights of on Sunday, Millwall v Arsenal (hope presumably triumphing over experience on this occasion) and Barnsley v Aston Villa.

Like *Football Focus*, *Sports Saturday* also liked the look of Walsall v Leeds. Of the two former players dispatched to the Bescot Stadium, (Garth Crooks for the BBC, Mark Lawrenson for Sky), Lawrenson edged it with an extended interview that revealed just how many points Chris Nicholl had to prove. John Motson, for one, will be grateful that he came so close to doing so.

## Wales worry against unchanged France

WALES, whose leading points-scorer, Neil Jenkins, was injured over the weekend, will face the French XV that twice beat New Zealand last summer when the rugby union five nations' championship opens on January 21 (David Hands writes). Christophe Deylaud and Laurent Cabannes, who missed the international against Canada last month, have been restored to the team that will play in Paris.

Wales will hope that Jenkins, who suffered a dead leg in Pontypridd's unexpected defeat by Newbridge, will have recovered in time.

FRANCE (v Wales): J. Sedouy (Colomiers), E. Ntamack (Toulouse), P. Sella (Agen), T. Lacroix (Clermont), P. Bouchard (Clermont), C. Deylaud (Toulouse), G. Deylaud (Toulouse), L. Cabannes (Toulouse), J. M. Gonzalez (Bayonne), C. Collado (Toulouse), A. Serres (Agen), O. Merle (Montpellier), O. Roussat (Dax), L. Cabannes (Toulouse), P. Bouchard (Clermont), S. Vignati (Toulon), A. Vassallo (Perpignan), L. Seigne (Bordeaux), M. de Rougemont (Toulon), M. Caillon (Bordeaux).

## Hammond loses out

CYCLING: Roger Hammond, Britain's highest-ranked world cyclo-cross rider, lost both the national amateur and open titles he was defending at Sutton Coldfield yesterday to finish an ignominious sixth in the 13-mile championship (Peter Bryan writes). The 20-year-old amateur, who won the world junior championship at Leeds three years ago, was dominant until the halfway point with a clear lead from his 99 rivals. Then the gap narrowed and he was overtaken, first by the professionals, Barrie Clarke, Steve Douce and Nick Craig. Hammond's fire had gone and at the finish he was one minute 12 seconds behind Clarke, of Raleigh, the new open champion. James Norfolk won the amateur title.

## Home triumph for Els

GOLF: Ernie Els, right, won his first home tournament in two years when he ran away with the South African Bell's Cup event by five shots at Fancourt, Estate Golf Club in George, yesterday. The US Open champion hit a final round of 70, two under par, for a 72-hole aggregate of 275, 13 under par. Joint second were Hendrik Barmann, of South Africa, and Pat Horgan, of the United States.



## Probables edged out

BOWLS: The team widely expected to represent England in the international indoor series at Rushcliffe in March was beaten 113-112 by a spirited squad of challengers in the final trial at Stevenage yesterday. Defeats for the rinks led by John Bell and Andy Thomson, and for Jamie Mills, who was favourite to be given a rink of his own for the first time, left the selectors with plenty of problems.

## Panthers pounce again

ICE HOCKEY: There seems to be no stopping Nottingham Panthers. Their 11-1 win over Bracknell Bees established a club record of 19 previous division games without defeat. Sheffield Steelers beat Whiteley Warriors to hold on to second place, but Edinburgh Racers and Fife Flyers both lost. In the first division, Paisley Pirates' 12-game winning run came to an end as Swindon Wildcats beat them 18-9.

## Dutch retain crowns

SPEED SKATING: Rinje Ritsma and Gunda Niemann, both of Holland, retained their respective men's and women's titles at the European championships in Heerenveen, Holland, yesterday. Ritsma defeated his friend and rival, Falko Zandstra, also of Holland, in the 10,000 metres to secure the overall title, which is decided by points awarded for times in championship races.

## González takes title

BOXING: Alejandro González, of Mexico, won the World Boxing Council featherweight title on Saturday from Kevin Kelley, of the United States, who failed to come out for the eleventh round. The bout was stopped when Kelley told his corner that he could not see out of his badly swollen eyes. González, 21, who has won 35 of his 37 fights, knocked Kelley down in the sixth, but was floored himself in the eighth.

## Conway does the trick

HOCKEY: Nick Conway scored a hat-trick for the England under-21 team, playing under the name of the Lions, in a 3-1 victory over the Italian under-21 team in the four-team Los Reyes tournament in Barcelona yesterday. On Saturday, they lost 1-0 to the German under-21 side, which won the tournament with five points from three matches. England finished third, behind Spain on goal difference.

## Courier finally delivers

TENNIS: Jim Courier, right, of the United States, won a tournament for the first time in 17 months yesterday when he defeated Arnaud Boetsch, of France, 6-2, 7-5 in the final of the Australian hardcourt championship in Adelaide. It was the fifteenth singles title of his career, and the two-time Australian Open champion lifted his world ranking from thirteenth to eleventh and earned \$43,000.



## First-day washout

GLIDING: The scheduled first day's competition at the world championships in Omarama, New Zealand, was cancelled yesterday in rain that began overnight. The previous day's opening ceremony had been conducted in a dust storm, although some events, including a glider display by Jacques Aboulin, of France, survived the weather.

## Hungarian on course

YACHTING: Sabocs Majthényi, of Hungary, retained his lead after six days of the Flying Dutchman class world championship despite finishing seventh yesterday in race at Adelaide. Majthényi sailed tactically to beat the Australian, Ian McCrossin, his rival for the championship, who finished tenth. Michael Dorner, of Germany, won the race.

## Wards' family success

REAL TENNIS: John and Marcus Ward, the No 2 seeds, beat John and Andrew Page 8-4 with a consistent display in the semi-finals of the national fathers and sons championship at Leamington. In the other semi-final, James Male, the world rackets champion, and his father, David, cruised through without loss of a game.

## Australia victory enhances position of Atherton's side in World Series Cup

# England gain from Thorpe's pain

FROM ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT  
IN MELBOURNE

MUCH to the benefit of a competition that had achieved parochial appeal without global credibility, England made substantial strides towards the finals of the World Series Cup during a hot and eventful weekend in Brisbane.

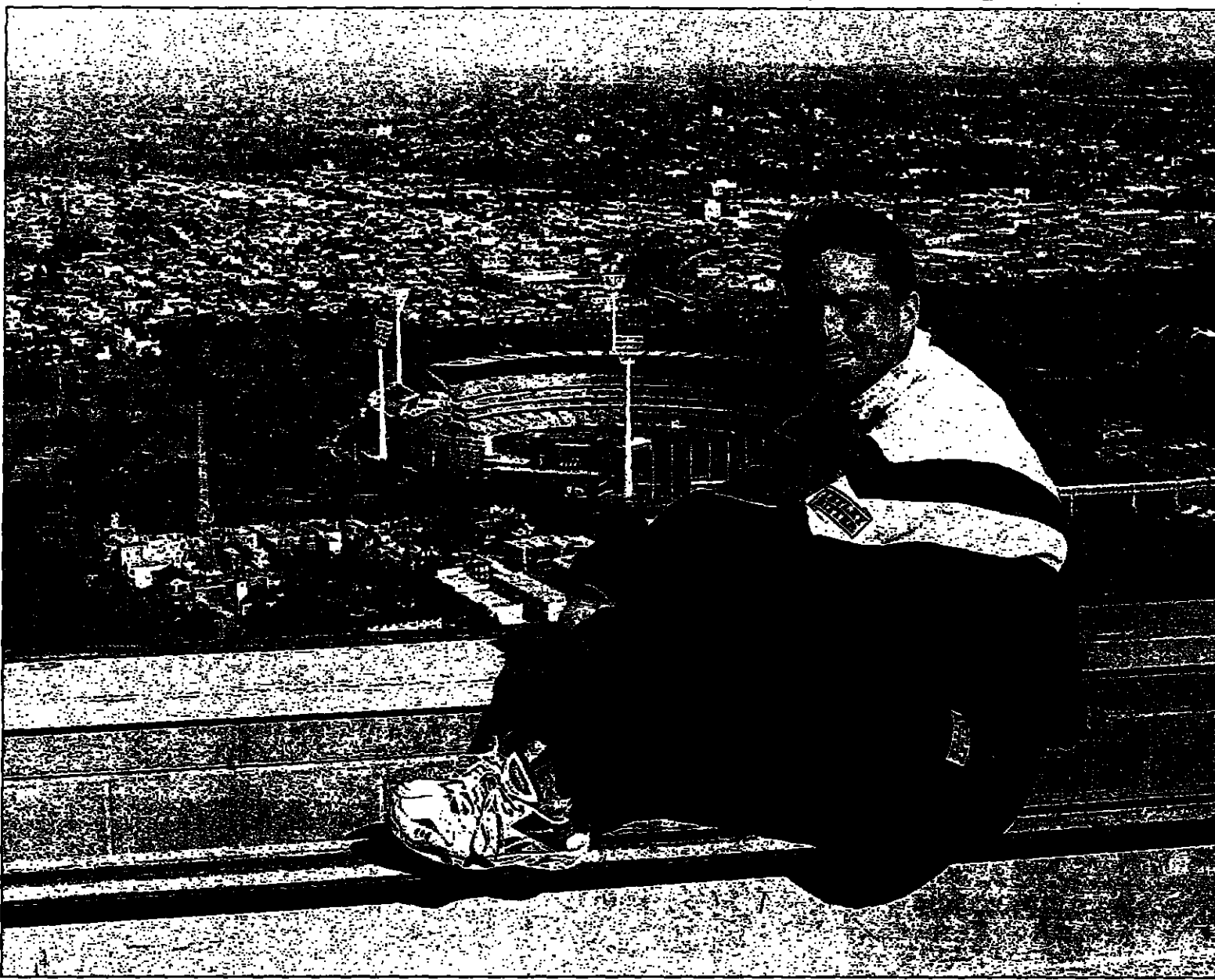
Both results, during the traditional January double-header at the Gabba, fell in favour of England, who defeated Zimbabwe by 26 runs on Saturday and then returned to Melbourne while Australia beat their own A team, by 34 runs, yesterday.

The crowds were good for both games, yesterday's being a sell-out 17,000, but although the Australian public has responded well to watching pick-up matches between a bunch of mates, nobody running the game here is anxious to see two Australian sides in the final. Neither, to be sure, is the Australia captain, Mark Taylor, whose sceptical view of the concept is well aired.

	P	W	L	Pts
Australia	5	5	0	10
Australia A	5	2	3	4
England	5	2	3	4
Zimbabwe	6	1	5	2

PREVIOUS RESULTS: Dec 2: Australia beat Zimbabwe by 2 wickets (Perth). Dec 4: Australia A beat Zimbabwe by 5 wickets (Perth). Dec 6: Australia A beat England by 25 runs (Sydney). Dec 8: Australia beat Zimbabwe by 84 runs (Melbourne). Dec 10: Australia A beat Zimbabwe by 7 wickets (Adelaide). Dec 11: Australia beat Australia A by six runs (Adelaide). Dec 13: England beat Australia by 31 runs (Melbourne). Dec 15: Zimbabwe beat England by 13 runs (Sydney).

MATCHES TO COME: Tomorrow: Australia v England (Melbourne). Jan 12: Australia A v England (Sydney). Jan 15: First final (Sydney). Jan 19: Second final (Melbourne). Jan 19: Third final (Melbourne).



Thorpe, restored to good health, relaxes with the Melbourne Cricket Ground in the background yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

Having won all five of their qualifiers so far, the senior Australians are now guaranteed one of the places in the best-of-three series, which begins in Sydney next Sunday. Even if they beat England for a second time tomorrow, however, Michael Atherton's team will progress, providing they in turn beat Australia A on Thursday.

Such machinations would have been irrelevant to England but for the heroics of Graham Thorpe. Their first win over Zimbabwe in three attempts was made possible by Thorpe's 89. But he paid a heavy price for batting for 155 minutes in high humidity and temperatures above 90°.

Despite supplies of water being ferried onto the field, Thorpe suffered severe dehydration that he was admitted to hospital and placed on a saline drip for four hours. He was discharged in time to rejoin the party heading south yesterday but gave a graphic description of his ordeal.

"I felt my whole body was on fire," Thorpe said. "I have never played in such heat and humidity, even in the Caribbean, and although I didn't feel too bad out in the middle, as

soon as I stopped running and hitting the ball I knew I was in trouble. I felt dizzy and faint, as if my whole body had stopped functioning. The most worrying thing was that I couldn't think straight. The muscles in my face and neck had tensed up."

Although conditions were extreme on Saturday, Atherton believes Thorpe's problems were caused by an accumulation of fatigue from the back-to-back Test matches that culminated in a four-hour fielding session, amid growing tension, late on Thursday evening.

There was insufficient recovery time before the 9am start on Saturday and Atherton, himself looking tired and unshaven, freely admitted before the toss that his players were jaded and struggling to raise themselves both mentally and physically. This contributed to the team selection, in which four of the Test side were omitted, but fielding ability also came into the equation.

In this regard, Neil Fairbrother justified his immediate inclusion, on arrival from South Africa, with a stunning fielding display in the one-saving innings at

## BRISBANE SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND	ZIMBABWE
G A Gough b Brain 0	G W Flower c Rhodes b Udal 19
M A Atherton bow to Martin 26	A D Campbell c Fairbrother b DeFreitas 3
G A Hick c A Flower b Strang 8	M H DeLoraine b Benjamin 5
G P Thorpe c Brain b Strang 89	M A Flower c Rhodes b Gough 52
N H Fairbrother run out (Strang) 7	G J Whitham c Rhodes b DeFreitas 63
J P Crawley bow to G W Flower 14	I P Butcher run out (Fairbrother) 2
15 J Rhodes at A Flower b DeLoraine 20	G G Martin at Rhodes b Hick 1
(44min, 22 balls)	
O Gough c Campbell b DeLoraine 4	
P A J DeFreitas not out 12	
(21min, 17 balls)	
S G Udal not out 11	
(11min, 12 balls)	
Extras (b 4, lb 2, w 3) 9	
Total (8 wickets, 80 overs, 533min) 200	
J S Benjamin did not bat	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0 (Atherton 0, 2-20 (Atherton 10, 3-72 (Thorpe 35, 4-82 (Thorpe 37), 5-107 (Thorpe 44), 6-164	

cover and mid-wicket. He made a difficult overhead catch look straightforward, effected a run-out and made any number of acrobatic stops in support of a disciplined England bowling effort.

He did, however, have ground to make up, having played an embarrassing part in a woeful start to the England innings. Graham Gough was out in the first over, dragging on a full toss in a way indicative of one whose

feet are no longer receiving the right signals, and Graeme Hick soon followed to a wretched stroke. Atherton occupied almost half the overs for 26, whereupon Fairbrother was run out — a decision given on replay evidence — when sloppily dawdling a single.

But for Thorpe, England would have managed nowhere near their eventual 200 and Zimbabwe would assuredly have completed one of the most bizarre troubles the

one-day game has witnessed. They too lost wickets early but Andy Flower and Guy Whitham kept them involved and, with 79 wanted from the last 15 overs and six wickets intact, England were in trouble. Darren Gough returned to bowl as well in his second spell as he had in his first, showing no sign of the soreness in his left foot that had persuaded the management to send him for a bone scan in hospital on Friday. As the scan

was clear, any damage is thought confined to soft tissue and should not stop him playing.

Joey Benjamin ended his first game for more than a month carrying another ailment, this time to his ankle, but he has more chance of being available tomorrow than Sham Udal, who suffered a side strain that was still troubling him yesterday.

By then, Australia had gone some way to finally admitting the concern over Shane Warne by leaving him out of the game against the A team. Warne is reportedly on a course of painkillers, including cortisone injections, for his sore right shoulder and may also miss the game in Melbourne tomorrow now that Australia have qualified.

Mark Waugh illuminated the match yesterday with a stunning 93 but it all had the feel of an exhibition match, opposition players winking and grinning at each other and hardly knowing which dressing-room to enter at close of play. As a one-off entertainment, it may have worked. As a long-term concept, it has no chance.

Australia A board, page 30

# Ilott strikes fast before injury prompts early halt



Ilott: anxious wait

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF  
MARK ILLOTT faces a worrying 24 hours after breaking down with a side injury in India yesterday. Ilott went off for treatment after tea as England A fought hard in draining heat to contain a Board President's XI to 255 for three on a batsman's paradise of a pitch in Madras.

The Essex left-arm fast bowler hopes to be fit enough to return to the match, but the physiotherapist, Wayne Morton, is waiting until tomorrow morning before saying whether he will allow the player to take the field.

Ilott is desperate for his career not to be upset once again by injury. The 24-year-

old played three Test matches in 1993 and had an outstanding A tour of South Africa last winter, but a nagging groin injury flared up badly last summer to deny Ilott a Test comeback.

He was in the England side for the first Test against New Zealand in June, but missed out of the next Test at Lord's because of the injury — Paul Taylor, of Northamptonshire, getting a call-up instead. However, by the time he was fit again, Darren Gough and Phil DeFreitas had established themselves in the England seam attack.

Ilott's hopes of further England recognition rose again, however, just before Christmas when he was summoned

to Australia to join the senior squad as cover.

He was with Mike Atherton's side for a fortnight, without being needed, before flying back to join the A tour in Bombay last week.

Ilott sees the coming weeks as the perfect opportunity to force his way into the full England side next summer.

Yesterday he struck an early blow with the new ball after the captain, Alan Wells, had condemned his side to a day in the field by losing the toss. And Ilott, who was sharp enough to force some bounce from an otherwise lifeless surface, then almost had the opener, Vikram Rathore, caught at mid-on mis-

But then Rathore (59) and the classy left-hander, Saurav Ganguly (69), added 92 in attractive style, forcing the A team back on the defensive.

The leg spinner, Ian Salisbury, rightening his line and length after offering too many loose balls, teamed up with Min Patel to put England A back in the game during a steamy afternoon of 90° heat and oppressive humidity.

Salisbury took two for 33 from 17 overs, bowling right through from lunch to tea, while the Kent slow left-arm, Patel, in his first big representative match, settled down impressively in a 14-over afternoon spell costing just 30.

The final session followed a

similar pattern, this time with the seamers, Dominic Cork and Richard Johnson, frustrating the Indians.

Only 68 runs came after tea from 28 overs — there were just 78 runs from 35 overs in the middle session — but the talented Rahul Dravid made sure the President's XI did not throw away their advantage. At the close he was 72 not out and has so far added 95 with the dour Shamshad Rizwan.

Phil Neale, the England A manager, said: "There was not much at all in the pitch for us, so after attacking as best we could this morning, we just had to concentrate trying to frustrate them out."

Scoreboard, page 30



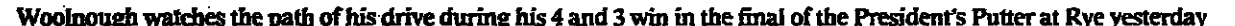
# Woolnough never releases grip on President's Putter

The wonder of Woolnough, 24, is that a nasty injury to his



□ John Huston doubled his lead after the third round of the Mercedes Championship in Carlsbad, California, on Saturday. The long-hitting American had a level-par 72 on the waterlogged La Costa course for a total of 205. He was four strokes ahead of Fred Couples (68) and Craig Stadler (73). At the other end of the field, John Daly, returning after a four-month absence, improved from equal last to 27th among 31 players after a 72.

Swelling from no more than 50 at first to several hundred later on, it included past captains of the R and A and present captains of industry, a sprinkling of knights and courtiers and more than a few people being exercised gently by their dogs, many of which were black labradors. And there was also an MP trying his hand at the black art of golf reporting.



**Woolnough watches the path of his drive during his 4 and 3 win in the final of the President's Putter at Rye yesterday**

## BY RICHARD EATON

the absence of the suspended Karl Brown to stay in contention with a 73-69 win at Worthing Bears, who must surely be out of the race.



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# County belie status to push City to the limits

Notts County ..... 2  
Manchester City ..... 2

BY ALYSON RUDD

IT TAKES luck, commitment and a touch of class to forge a path through the FA Cup. So often the underdogs in the early stages of the competition rely rather less on class than they do on the first two qualities. Yesterday, Notts County produced arguably the real shock of the third round by outclassing Manchester City in every quarter of the pitch.

County are far more likely to be relegated than they are to reach the FA Cup final. They lie embarrased at the foot of the Endcliffe Insurance League first division and had scored only once in their previous five matches. The number of empty seats scattered among the home support at Meadow Lane did not bode well for those looking for a tightly contested cup-tie. Yet it was the mass of travelling City supporters who were to be disappointed, then ultimately

Mickey Thomas, the former Wales player, has been appointed caretaker manager of Notts County after the dismissal of Ian Edwards.

relieved, as their team scraped a draw.

Brian Horton, the Manchester City manager, said that reports he had received on County had implied they had been unlucky in their recent games, and had been playing better than their lowly league position indicated. Even so, Horton wanted it to be an open game. "I chose to come and play that way," he said. He very nearly regretted that decision.

County took the lead after 25 minutes. Matthews meeting Legg's fine cross with a powerful right-foot volley. The home side had been threatening to score from the start. Turner, in particular, was unlucky to see his 30-yard free kick hit the crossbar in the sixth minute.

A quick equaliser seemed unlikely but it came, in the 28th minute, in fortunate fashion, with Beagrie's strike completely fooling Cherry, the County goalkeeper. "I'm sure Steve [Cherry] will put his hand up," Russell Slade, the County manager, said. Unfortunately for County, Cherry — apparently unsighted — did

not move a muscle when it mattered.

However, a minute later, County went ahead once more. Matthews drove the ball at Dibble and White, who joined them from Queens Park Rangers last week, reached Dibble's parry to score.

Most of the chances in the second half fell to County, or, to be more accurate, were created by them. This was not a case of the underdog holding out against a barrage of chances from the supposedly superior side. Rieker and Walsh struggled to make any impact at all, with Murphy and Johnson in the County defence first to everything.

Beagrie was the only real City threat, and it was his inswinging free kick that created their eightieth-minute equaliser. Cherry came to clear the ball, but Quinn reached it first and flicked on to David Brightwell, who headed into an empty net.

Quinn had looked sharp as soon as he replaced Foster. There is every need for Quinn to impress. He is at present third choice in City's forward line-up and, although Horton says he has "accepted it quite well for a top-class player", it will still warm the Ireland international to hear that his manager believed he made the difference in this match.

Picking out a County player is more difficult. They all excelled at one point or another. However, Matthews deserved additional praise, not just for his goal and his part in County's second, but for the openings he created in the second half.

In the last ten minutes, either side could have clinched it. Quinn missed a clear opening after a poor clearance by Cherry, and McSwegen scooped the ball over the crossbar in the final minute when he had time to place his shot.

Asked if his team had played better this season, Slade was quick to say "yes". They had performed even more impressively when they knocked Tottenham Hotspur out of the Coca-Cola Cup. Most would conclude that County missed their chance yesterday. Slade was reminding them that that are capable of delivering the killer punch.

NOTTS COUNTY (4-4-2): S Cherry — G White, S Murphy, M Johnson, A Legg — D Owen, B Rieker, P Turner, R Matthews — D White, G McSwegen. MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): A Dibble — J Foster, S A. N. Quinn, G. Johnson, A. Vassell, B. Brightwell (sub: D. Brightwell, 48), T. Phelan, C. Barrow, S. Williams — M. Bright, G. Whittingham (sub: L. Key, 42). Referee: M. Bond.



Evans, of Wycombe, turns in disgust as his team, already two goals in arrears, sinks to defeat on Saturday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## Wycombe fail to make giants tremble

EVEN the sure-fire shocks do not go to form in the Cup. This was billed as the upset of the day, struggling West Ham against progressive Wycombe. So what happens? The FA Carling Premiership side gives such an object lesson in how to disarm and handcuff a dangerous customer that Harry Redknapp, their manager, should be considered for head of the prison service.

"Superb," he said afterwards. A goalless first half, two headed goals nearly spaced in the second and West Ham were on their way. It was that simple.

For all their impressive form during their rapid rise from the Vauxhall Conference to the upper reaches of the Endcliffe Insurance League second division, Wycombe have yet to get the hang of the FA Cup. Last year, Norwich City came to Adams Park in the middle of their managerial upheavals looking ripe for defeat. They won 2-0 in a canter. West Ham did

the same. The truth is that Adams Park, a model ground for a lower division club, is about as intimidating as a visit to the local library. Even the drummer at the Wycombe End sounded as if he was beating the retreat.

The visitors had the run of the pitch, their supporters, too raucous and foul-mouthed by half for gentle Buckinghamshire, dominated the airwaves. It takes years to establish a Cup tradition and Wycombe are ascending so fast they might be giants before they get a chance to be killers.

Wycombe's idea was to keep the game under control for an hour and push West Ham into an anxious last half-hour of clock-watching. Standard tactics away from home, but a little negative in your own den. Wycombe needed to go for the throat and hang on for dear life as Walsall almost did against Leeds United.

Instead, they allowed Bishop and Moncur to establish

Andrew Longmore is impressed by the style of West Ham United's 2-0 win at Adams Park

their rhythm in midfield and thus the game was always being played at a tempo more to West Ham's liking. A flying header by Evans, some dashing runs down the left by Bell and a desperate aerial intervention by Breacker to deny Regis were about the sum of Wycombe's passion in the first half.

West Ham looked ominously comfortable and a simple goal two minutes after half-time, Cottee pulling away from Steve Brown to head home Hughes's slide-rule cross, effectively ended the issue. There was time to look around then, to admire the dying moments of the rivalry between the two 36-year-olds, Regis and Martin, which began at this stage of

the Cup 15 years ago when West Ham gained a fortunate draw away at West Bromwich Albion and went on to win the Cup. "Perhaps it's an omen," Martin said.

The pair have crossed swords plenty of times since, so indelibly that Martin has included Regis in his list of top ten strikers in a book due for publication this year.

"He was so quick and so strong. He once outran me over 20 yards with Billy Bonds clinging to his back. I never looked forward to playing against him. He's a nice fellow, but we had some good battles. I've still got the scars to prove it," Martin said, rubbing his chin in remembrance.

Martin won the final round at least. Regis throwing in the towel after an hour just as the floodlights were beginning to reflect off his and Martin's thinning pate. "That's always a good sight, seeing him go off, even if he has still got more hair than me," Martin said. He did not, however,

claim much of the credit. "The whole team played well, so I was nicely protected."

By then, West Ham were so brimful of confidence, Wycombe could barely get hold of the ball, let alone mount an effective counter-attack, and it was no real surprise when a neat three-man move 12 minutes from time ended with Brown heading in, again from Hughes's cross.

Wycombe responded by pushing the mighty Evans into attack and Carroll had a curling free kick well saved by Miklosin, but, once behind bars, Wycombe saw so little sign of freedom. Martin O'Neill, their manager, was, for once, lost for words: "I don't even know why you're interviewing me," he said.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS (4-4-2): P Hyde — J Cousins, M Cossley, T Burns, S Brown, D Carroll, K Rye, S Thompson (sub: S. Thompson, 61min), M Bell — S. Gomers, C. Regis (sub: A. Hemmings, 60). WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L. Lifford — T. Breacker, S. Potts, A. Martin, J. Dixon — M. Hughes, J. Moncur, I. Bishop, M. Holmes (sub: K. Brown, 67) — A. Cottee, J. Boone (sub: T. Miley, 45). Referee: G. Willard.

## Wrexham relish chance to take on holders

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

TWELVE replays, one outstanding third-round tie — Sheffield United against Manchester United tonight — and a host of ifs, buts and maybes: the draw for the fourth round of the FA Cup yesterday carried endless possibilities, but little substance. Only four matches are without a "result pending" label, the all-FA Carling Premiership meetings of Nottingham Forest v Crystal Palace and Queens Park Rangers v West Ham United, plus Portsmouth v Leicester City and Sheffield Wednesday v Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Wolverhampton provided the most stirring recovery of the third round when they retrieved a 2-0 half-time deficit away to Mansfield Town, of the Endcliffe Insurance League third division, to win 3-2. Graham Taylor, the former England manager, will relish a visit to Hillsborough and another chance to test his strategies at the highest level.

Stan Collymore, the much-admired striker, will also welcome Crystal Palace's visit to the City Ground, Nottingham, where he now plies his trade. Collymore began his career at Selhurst Park, as a £100,000 purchase from Stafford Rangers, before moving on to Southend United for the same fee. A year later, after 15 league goals in 30 matches, he switched to Forest for £2.1 million.

The lack of a genuine "minnow" — the non-league contingent of Altrincham, Marlow,



Fourth-round draw details ..... Page 21

Enfield and Aylesbury United disappeared on Saturday. Wrexham, fourth in the Endcliffe second division, to carry the flag for the heroic underdogs. Their 2-1 defeat of Ipswich Town, three years after they knocked out Arsenal at the same stage, has been rewarded with a possible tie against Manchester United, the holders. "We're all desperate for Manchester United to win," Garry Bennett, scorer of Wrexham's winning penalty against Ipswich, said.

Other "small fry" to gain rewarding draws included Swansea City, who would find a trip to either Newcastle United or Blackburn Rovers highly attractive, and Carlisle United, runaway leaders of the third division, who can dream of hosting Tottenham Hotspur, the eight-time winners of the competition, if they first dispose of Sunderland in a replay.

Two London derbies were plucked from the fourth-round bag — Millwall or Arsenal v Chelsea, and Queens Park Rangers v West Ham — but, for many, the Cup acts as no more than a pleasant diversion from the realities of avoiding relegation. Russell Slade, the Notts County manager, was thus unimpressed when his first division basement side was drawn at home to Aston Villa, providing they overcome Manchester City in a Maine Road rematch. "I'm more concerned with the game against Burnley next Saturday," he said.

## Palace's Cup goal spree contrasts with league form



Salako: finished job

Crystal Palace ..... 5  
Lincoln City ..... 1

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

IN THE FA Carling Premiership, Crystal Palace have forgotten how to score, sentencing themselves to a nine-match nightmare of goalless proportions. In the cups, though, they make the noble art of finishing look easy. Thirteen in five ties, including five in the FA Cup third round yesterday, only emphasises the frustrating affliction that threatens their continued existence among the high and mighty.

Chris Armstrong, Palace's £4 million-rated forward, is similarly stymied when the Premiership day

dawns. He has scored only two league goals this season, yet when knockout competition looms, his performances and strike-rate rank near the hyper-inflated price-tag that perhaps so burdens him. His goal against Lincoln City was his fifth in five cup-ties this season.

With as organised and mean a defence as there is — Martin, the Palace goalkeeper, has kept 11 clean sheets — there is not too much wrong that a few goals would not rectify. There are far worse teams in the Premiership, far more likely candidates for relegation.

"All along we've needed the first goal," Alan Smith, the Palace manager, said. "It's the one that settles you, that gives you the confidence to go on and get more. I wasn't really relieved

with five today because I never really anticipated it would be a problem against Lincoln. It just shows the gulf between the Premiership and the third division."

Victory, over an admittedly limited Lincoln side, will have lifted the Palace spirits, a timely reminder that they can deliver the sports' most prized ingredient. They seek further confirmation when they play Manchester City in the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-finals on Wednesday and then it is back to their search-for-a-goal campaign in the league against Leicester City on Saturday.

They may at least have the services of Iain Dowie, their recent £400,000 acquisition from Southampton. Dowie watched from the dugout yesterday and is cup-tied on Wednesday but, with Smith willing, is likely to make his bow in some form against Leicester.

Palace took only seven minutes to get going against Lincoln, fifteenth in the third division and looking like it. Newman swung over a corner and Coleman headed in his first club goal of the season. In the 24th Ndah crossed from the left. Pitcher dived to nod against the crossbar and Armstrong poached the rebound.

What little atmosphere there was — which jokers fixed an FA Cup tie for 12 noon on a Sunday? — died a swift death. Palace pressed the cruise-control button and Gordon rifled in a 32nd-minute penalty after West had topped Ndah.

Salako stretched to poke in Armstrong's firmly driven centre on the

hour and only then did Lincoln reproduce the same passion that almost knocked Palace out of the Coca-Cola Cup — they were taken to extra time — at the same venue in October. Greenall headed in Hill's 66th-minute free kick, without a marker in sight, but any thoughts of a fightback were quickly snuffed out.

Armstrong, Salako and Preece all had chances to add to the relative goal-fest, but Palace had to wait until three minutes from time for Salako, who cut in and fired past Leaning, to complete the job.

CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): R. Smith — G. Coleman, G. Gordon, J. Humphrey, G. Southgate, D. Pitcher, R. Newman, G. Ndah (sub: A. Preece, 46min) — J. Salako, C. Armstrong. LINCOLN CITY (4-3-3): A. Leaning — D. West, G. Brown, J. Hebbard, C. Greenall — S. Foley (sub: G. Brown, 45), D. H. A. Johnson — D. Johnson (sub: B. Dixon, 59), M. Carbone, A. Davis. Referee: P. Hoyle.

## Key shuts out Gillingham

Gillingham ..... 1  
Sheffield Wednesday ..... 2

BY DAVID POWELL

SHEFFIELD Wednesday never lose when they concede a penalty. This was the fourth game in succession in which they have given at least one away and yet they can reflect on three wins and a draw. Perhaps Trevor Francis, the Sheffield manager, was only half joking when he said of Lance Key, his replacement goalkeeper: "He has got to learn to save penalties."

Key, five years with Sheffield Wednesday and in his first senior appearance, was beaten before touching the ball. He came on when Pressman was sent off for fouling Pike in the 42nd minute and was unable to stop the resultant penalty. But he made four good second-half saves to deny Gillingham a replay, yet, despite his heroics, he may have a long wait for another game.

By the time Pressman's suspension comes round, Woods is likely to have recovered his fitness after six months on the injury list. If either Woods or Pressman goes on to play in the Cup Final, thanks should go to Key. Three flying saves from shots by Foster, and an awkward low stop from Pike, preserved the 2-1 lead Sheffield held at half-time.

Gillingham had looked out of it at 2-0 down. On the half-hour Waddle curled the ball in from right to left and it deceived Banks as it went in off the far post. Ninety seconds later Waddle's cross was met by Bright's head at the far post.

However, Pressman's flooring of Pike altered the complexion, and from then on Gillingham, 79 League places beneath Sheffield, made most of the running. "I thought we were playing uphill in the second half," Key said.

Francis's decision to remove Whittingham, bought for six times the value of Gillingham's £115,000 team, when

Pressman was sent off was based on recent experience. "One of the front two had to come off and the last time we were down to ten men, against Leeds, Mark Bright was outstanding playing by himself," Francis said.

Francis admitted that Sheffield had fought "a rearguard action" in the second half but, if Gillingham supporters feel hard done by at not having a replay to look forward to, they should remember how, but for their goalkeeper playing as Key did, on Saturday, Heybridge Swifts would have dumped them out in the first round. Harder to accept is that a Gillingham old boy, Alan Hodgkinson, helped to coach the Sheffield goalkeeper into the form he showed at Priestfield.

GILLINGHAM (4-3-3): S. Banks — A. Smith, R. Goss, A. Budge, P. Watson — G. McWhintry, R. Capantier, N. Smith — A. Foster, C. Pike, R. Rieker. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K. Pressman — P. Albion, A. Preece, D. Walker, I. Nolan — G. Waddle (sub: D. Preece, 60min), G. Hyle, J. Shotton, C. Barrow — M. Bright, G. Whittingham (sub: L. Key, 42). Referee: M. Bond.

## Hughes's Cup journey has selective deja vu

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MARK HUGHES played the key role in clinching the FA Cup and the double for Manchester United last season, but returns to Bramall Lane tonight with mixed feelings.

His goal last January avenged United's fifth-round defeat by Sheffield United a season earlier, but the Welsh striker was sent off in the third-round tie.

"I got a good goal, which turned out to be the winner, but I let myself down when I got sent off. It was late in the game, a little tiredness crept in and my brain just went a bit," Hughes said.

But it was Hughes who kept Alex Ferguson's men on course with a late semi-final equaliser against Oldham and then added another in the final against Chelsea.

"Everyone remembers that goal against Oldham and I just hope I can make as

important a contribution again this year," Hughes said.

He was dropped for the new year win over Coventry and faces a battle with the rising talent, Paul Scholes, for a place. However, he and Brian McClair are set for a recall against Dave Bassett's men as Ferguson goes for resilience and experience.

"I haven't had as much luck in front of goal as I would have liked," Hughes, scorer of just four goals this season, said.

Sheffield United prepared for the game in the Channel Islands, but the getaway from it all trip backfired when Roger Nilsen, from Norway, and the Welsh international, Glyn Hodges, picked up injuries in training. Both are expected to be fit, with Nilsen set to play at centre back because Paul Beesley is suspended.

## Little's back to basics works

Barnsley ..... 0  
Aston Villa ..... 2

BY PAT GIBSON

MOST managers save that hoary cliché about concentrating on the League until after they have been knocked out of the FA Cup, but Brian Little, of Aston Villa, has no time for such indulgence. His thoughts had already turned back to the fight for FA Carling Premiership survival before his players had a chance to savour this satisfying victory.

"The Cup is not the most important thing for us now," he said. "A lot will be made of the draw but I'm more concerned with the League. We just want to win some football matches — as many as we can, as quickly as we can."

They will not all be as straightforward as this one. A sign outside the pub round the corner from Oakwell read "Away Supporters Welcome" and the away team did not run into much hostility, either.

Villa have had many moments of self-doubt since they were putting Internazionale out of the UEFA Cup at the start of the season, but there are real signs that Little is restoring their belief with a back-to-basics policy that is working better than John Major's has.

There are few places much more basic than Barnsley. A derelict pitch on a hillside overlooking the ground was a reminder of how things used to be, but out on the pitch Villa reminded the locals of things that never were by emphasising the huge gap between the bottom of the Premiership and the upper reaches of the first division.

Danny Wilson, the Barnsley player-manager, who returned to the side after missing eight games through injury and probably wished he had not, summed it up perfectly: "The big difference between the Premiership and the first division is that the players' minds work that much quicker. That, coupled with a little bit of talent, and I think Villa

have got a little bit of talent." They had enough for Little to leave the seasoned Houghton and Richardson on the bench and they also had £2.9 million worth of talent in Tommy Johnson and Gary Charles, newly signed from Derby, sitting in the stand.

Villa were frustrated three times by marginal offside decisions when York, Fashanu and Taylor had the ball in the net, but had to wait until the fifth minute for their first goal.

Even then Wilson protested that the goalkeeper, Watson, had been impeded by Fashanu when York headed in Staunton's corner, but he had no complaints about the second. Townsend made it with an exquisite cross from the right and Saunders volleyed perfectly.

SURVEY (3-5-2): D. Watson — G. Davis, G. Houghton, A. Richardson, T. Johnson, M. Fashanu, G. O'Connor, D. Williams (sub: M. Richardson, 70), M. Richardson, S. Swales — A. Taylor, A. Charles. ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): N. Spink — E. Brown, P. McGovern, J. Edwards, S. Taylor — D. Wilson, T. Johnson, G. Charles, G. O'Connor. Referee: R. Oliver.



Walsh, his three most influential players, sidelined, McGhee will have to concentrate on the basics of good passing movement off the ball and sound finishing, all of which were neglected in this match. For a player who saw much of the tie at close quarters, Pape, the Enfield goalkeeper, was largely untroubled, although Roberts added Leicester's second with an angled shot in the 68th minute.

LEICESTER CITY H-4-2; K Poole — S Grayson, J White, C Hill, M Whislow — S Agnew (left), D Lowe, G Strimling, S Thompson, R Williams, J O'Connell, A Roberts.  
ENFIELD I-3-0-2; A Page — G Blackford, A Henderson, P Turner, A Ken, J Cantalini  
H-1-1-1; M Pye, P Ryan, Solt, J Bailey, W. Jones, J. Smith, J. Wright, Irvine, J Ricourt, J. Jones

Referee: J Worral







# Bennett stays true to predictable plot

FROM their supporters' arrival at the ground to the delirious pitch invasion at the final whistle, Wrexham staged a classic cup-tie on Saturday. The game was full of thrills and spills, of high drama in the closing minutes, and sprinkled throughout with some outstanding football.

More than an hour before kick-off there was a buzz of anticipation around the Racecourse Ground. Inside, Wrexham set about their supposed superiors with a will and with high skill, and at the end the crowd came on to mob their heroes, getting in first before the press.

It wasn't like this when I scored against Connah's Quay. Gary Bennett, a free transfer from Chester three years ago and now the league's leading goalscorer, said with a grin as broad as

his Scouse accent after his penalty put his side through.

Alongside him, people crowded round Andy Marriott, whose vital saves brought back memories of keeping goal at Wembley for Nottingham Forest, and Kieron Durkan, the scorer of the first goal, who had joined the pitch invasion as a youth team player after Wrexham's last great occasion, the victory over Arsenal in 1992. It was a game to celebrate with the underdogs, who had their day in style, the sort of day that makes the third round of the FA Cup unique.

But there is a cloud on the horizon that taints even such a wonderful day as this. How many more of these days will there be if Sir John Hall, the Newcastle chairman, and his co-conspirators of the Premier League get their way? For

**Peter Ball on a 2-1 victory for Wrexham over Ipswich that lacked only an element of surprise**

where will Wrexham and clubs like it go if the Premier League expands to a self-perpetuating oligarchy with two divisions in a closed shop? Probably to part-time football on the margins of the national game.

There will always be non-League teams having their moment, but a non-League team beats a Premiership club once in a decade, a lower division team does so every year. This year, not for the first time, Wrexham, a small club but one with a real community and a significant tradition, take the honours.

Afterwards, Brian Flynn, the Wrexham manager, suggested it surpassed the famous

victory over Arsenal. In terms of the quality of Wrexham's football, he was undoubtedly right, but while beating Arsenal was a story for the annals of Welsh triumphs, beating Ipswich was hardly a surprise. The empty seats at the visitors' end told their own story.

"We were very poor defensively, particularly through the middle," George Burley, their new manager, said. But if Bennett and Cross won the contest against Linighan and Whelan, victory was also due to Wrexham's superiority elsewhere. Hughes and Owen controlled midfield with a craft and vision Ipswich rarely revealed, while out wide

Connolly and the youthful Durkan were a constant danger.

Connolly began the move down the left which produced the first goal, from a fine centre by Cross. Waiting on the far post was Durkan, who billowed the net with a perfect volley. "He's been ballooning those into the stand all season, and then, against Ipswich, in the FA Cup, what does he do?" Bennett demanded.

"There's only one Kieron Durkan," the scoreboard announced joyfully and incontrovertibly. The high drama, though, was still to come as Ipswich belatedly realised who they were and mounted a siege of the home goal. With six minutes left, the inevitable happened as Linighan met a corner with an irresistible header.

It seemed Ipswich had es-

caped, but the game still had a twist, with Wrexham's glorious and immediate response. Instead of feeling sorry for themselves, they went for the throat. Connolly went round the inexperienced Tanner and was flattened. Bennett's eyes lit up and he drove home his twelfth penalty of the season off Baker's hands.

"I missed one against Newtown in the Welsh Cup, and the lads keep jibing me about that, but I told them I score the important ones," he said. "Any striker will tell you it's an easy opportunity to get a goal. You should gobble them up."

WREXHAM (4-2-2): A Marriott — S Jones, B Hughes, A Marriott, P Hardy — K Durkan, G Cross, B Hughes, K Connolly — G Bennett, J Cross.  
IPSWICH TOWN (4-3-1-2): C Baker — F Taylor, P Whelan, D Linighan, A Vaughan — A Tanner, S Seagley, P Mason (left), G Johnson (right), C Thompson — S Slater (left), A Pegg, T. C. Kewonjo.  
Referee: J. Rushion

## Victory allows Sugar to court favour

**Simon Barnes on a 3-0 win over Altrincham and a triumph for the Tottenham chairman**



It was hard to say which side was more pleased to be in the third round of the FA Cup, easier to say which was the more surprised. Altrincham, of the Vauxhall Conference, had got there through honest efforts on the football pitch. Tottenham Hotspur had got there through whatever kind of efforts it is that lawyers make.

Thrown out of the competition as a punishment for the financial irregularities of a previous administration, they were later let off, to various kinds of shock and dismay. They made good the efforts of the lawyers by winning 3-0 at White Hart Lane on Saturday.

The FA Cup is supposed to be the most romantic of all competitions, but lawyers, and especially the kind of lawyers employed by Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, are about as carefree and romantic as men who cut diamonds for a living.

Before the match began, the Tottenham public address, perhaps the loudest in the FA Cup, expressed its delight at being back in the Cup, and added a hearty vote of thanks to Sugar. This audacious suggestion was greeted with a great roar of approval.

I doubt if Sugar puffed himself up too much. He knows all about the loyalty of footballing folk. Just 18 months ago, the people who cheered him all hated him. I remember standing outside the High Court, watching Tottenham supporters, faces contorted with self-righteous hate above their overpriced replica shirts, yelling their execration of Sugar and all his works, and their undying loyalty to Terry Venables, who for a brief and heady period was Lord High Everything else at Tottenham.

Now, I have always believed that loyalty was something one owed to persons rather than institutions. However, the entire tradition of football is against this. A much loved player has only to change sides to become a hated enemy.

When he returns to play against the institution that once employed him, he becomes a Judas booed at every turn.

Clearly, the process works in reverse. Thus the loathed Sugar, called a Judas by the High Court posse, is now a messiah. At least he was on Saturday. His team of lawyers, a breed that makes Arsenal look like reckless adventurers, had done its pragmatic best, and had managed a thoroughly workmanlike 3-0 victory over the Football Association.

So Sugar was cheered, and Altrincham were wheeled out.

How glorious it would have been had Altrincham managed to steal the game, a poached goal against the

run of play, the very stuff of Cup romance. How many wondrous layers of irony could an observer peel away from such a result? But it was not to be. It was clearly not to be in the first five minutes, with a shot from Anderson saved, another from Klinsmann sidefooted wide. After eight minutes a goal came, and alas for romance, the tie was as good as settled.

Klinsmann created it with an instant free kick, and Rosenthal's cross was bundled over by Sheringham. The goal settled the nerves — oddly enough, the nerves of the non-leaguers. The worst had happened, and so they knuckled down to make a fight of it.

They defended well for the rest of the game, with heroic performances from France and especially Reid, the centre backs, and a good one from Collings, the goalkeeper. But a second goal after half an hour made the game safe enough, as Rosenthal put away a corner from Calderwood's knock-down.

There was the curious incident of the Altrincham goal. Tottenham tolerantly watched a long throw from Reid sail into the area, and Constable walloped it home. The long celebrations were finally interrupted when the referee saw that the linesman's flag was raised: foul throw. Reid had lifted his foot in an effort to get extra distance. No, the Tottenham defence had not seen the flag.

John King, the Altrincham manager, was inclined to talk about that as the turning point. Who knows what would have happened with 18 minutes to go and a single goal in it? An interesting if pointless bit of metaphysical speculation.

The Tottenham defence has not conceded a goal for half a dozen games, as Gerry Francis, appointed manager to stop the haemorrhage of goals, pointed out with assumed nonchalance. But the defence is still prone to alarming lapses: another diagonal ball across the box saw Reid, unmolested, turn the ball wide.

However, Tottenham's third goal came, a header from Nethercott, the substitute. When a centre half is brought on for an injured attacking midfielder player, it is clear that the romantic card is not being played.

All that remained was for the journalists to look up "gallant" in the thesaurus, and for Altrincham to go back to Cheshire telling each other lawyer jokes. What's black and brown and looks good on a lawyer? A doberman.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): W. Jones — D. Austin, C. Calderwood, G. Meibohm, S. Campbell — N. Barnes, D. Anderson, D. Howells, P. Rosenthal (left), S. Newcombe, 47min — J. Klinsmann, E. Sheringham.  
ALTRINCHAM (4-4-2): P. Collings — S. Cross, P. France, A. Reid, D. Heaton — S. Terry, M. Connolly, B. Butler, C. Sharritt (left), C. Constable, 88 — M. Harrison (left), N. Shaw, 75, A. Ginn.  
Referee: W. Burns

## Brave Walsall three minutes away from claiming Premiership scalp

# Change of plan yields dividend for Leeds

Walsall ..... 1  
Leeds United ..... 1

By DAVID MILLER

TWENTY minutes or so into this cup-tie at Walsall's new corrugated-iron Bescot Stadium, Gary McAllister, the Leeds and Scotland captain, took a decision that was, if only ultimately with three minutes to spare, to prevent another page being written on the romance of the FA Cup.

Romance apart, you will not see a better cup-tie than this draw, and while Walsall failed to emulate their failed 1933 victory over Arsenal, they will go to Elland Road buoyed with optimism for the replay.

Perhaps falsely. For a week, Leeds had studiously practised, with their manager, Howard Wilkinson, ways of playing the ball through the ranks of their third division rivals, who they knew were no mugs. Yet within minutes of the start, it was apparent that Walsall's organisation, tight marking and vigorous running, plus a bumpy, unhelpful pitch, was going to play havoc with pre-conceived strategy.

The team that cost £53,000 was decidedly under-awed by opposition assembled for £12 million. This, typically, was not going to be a day for skilful reputations.

So, switch to plan B. The Wimbledon touch. Play above them. This is a tactic with which neither Leeds nor their critics are unfamiliar. Hit the ball long and high, look for the knock-down, exploit the error. McAllister's switch was especially appropriate against a short goalkeeper such as Trevor Wood, who joined Walsall from Port Vale this season.

In the most spectacular of ways, the plan appeared to

have failed during the remaining 70 minutes. While Leeds biffed the ball, Walsall tried to play football on the ground. Lightbourne at centre forward, who at times looked clever enough for any division and whose low cross-shot set up Marsh's overlapping goal on the half-hour, linked well with Houghton on the left.

Leeds, nonetheless, had some 20 chances or shots on target, only to see the ball four times hit the bar or post, or Wood make a succession of reflex, Jack-knife saves that made him worthy man of the match.

When, with eight minutes to go, Speed hit the right-hand post and Masingsa, a South African substitute for his compatriot, Radebe, hit the left within a five-second scramble, Leeds seemed doomed. There was, however, to be an ironic twist in the finish.

Wood, exceptional shot-stopper though he may have been on the day, added severely to the strain placed upon his central defenders, Ryder and Palmer, and full backs, Evans and Gibson, by his persistent reluctance to come off his line to meet crosses within the six-yard area.

"This meant that Deane, opposition assembled for £12 million. This, typically, was not going to be a day for skilful reputations.

Because of the expectation of giant-killing, the press box overflowed and some of us sat among season-ticket holders. Part of the pleasure of such cup-ties — indeed part of the social service that football renders to the community — is that it enables spectators noisily to exhibit appalling, vehement prejudice without doing harm to anyone, and to go

home afterwards with the gratifying, psychological glow that you get from a hard game of squash.

Sitting behind me was an extreme such case, a schoolmaster, I guess, stoutly egalitarian (at least for others) anti-monarchist, Black Country chauvinist. Everybody north or south of the Midlands had been condemned before kick-off. Notably Spurs. Every Walsall attempt was greeted with the same pessimistic encouragement: "Do your



Wilson, left, struggles to escape the attentions of Palmer during the 1-1 draw at the Bescot Stadium

best, Walsall", the doubt transparent.

On the other hand, everything Leeds did was, allegedly, dirty, cowardly, corrupt, intimidating or incompetent: a left-wing Alf Garnett of the terraces.

Menacing crosses were deservingly met with: "That's right, kick it anywhere," Marsh scored. "They're firing, Walsall." The match was barely half an hour old. An excellent, impartial referee booked Gary Speed. "Bang

goes your free holiday in Harrogate." The spleen was worthy of Jimmy Porter.

At the finish, the schoolmaster departed for home with the contented expression of a man who has dined on caviar. But then, of course, we all had.

WALSALL (4-4-2): T. Wood — W. Evans, S. Ryder, C. Palmer, C. Gibson (left), D. Pagan, P. Harris — C. Marsh, M. O'Connor, C. Nnamani, S. Houghton — K. Lightbourne, K. Wilson.  
LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): G. Kelly, D. Wetherall, J. Pennington, N. Worthington — D. White (left), P. Wallace, 76, I. Roddie (right), P. Masingsa, 69, G. McAllister, C. Palmer — B. Deane, G. Speed.  
Referee: J. Winter.

## Aylesbury smile through

Aylesbury United..... 0  
Queens Park Rangers... 4

By WALTER GAMMIE

THE high spots for Aylesbury United's supporters on their eagerly awaited day out at Loftus Road came when they piled out of their coaches — green wigs, cardboard ducks, and great grins at the ready — and at the finish when they acclaimed their players who had dropped to their knees in thanks and performed the now celebrated duck waddle.

The part in between was deflating. Rangers were simply too good for the Diadora League side, whose hopes of upsetting the odds had already looked threadbare before going behind to a tenth-minute goal by Danny Maddix.

The tactic of hitting the ball up to Cliff Hercules and letting the 31-year-old, who has been battering non-League defences for ten seasons, do the rest was already exposed. Alan McDonald, the Northern Ireland defender, was clearly going to give Hercules nothing.

Allowed one speculative overhead kick, Hercules was reduced to trying to muscle in when Aylesbury were awarded a free kick 25 yards out. Allan Puckroose, his captain,

shook him away. Amid his own tribulations, Hercules still found time for the travelling 4,000, swinging his arms to raise spirits and rouse one final chorus. Afterwards, Ray Wilkins, the Rangers manager, said: "At 3-0 I've seen teams like that fold, but they didn't. They stuck at it."

Although Meaker was unmarked when cashing in on blocked shots by Ferdinand and Allen to score the fourth in the 78th minute, Aylesbury had largely managed to eliminate the defensive chapter of accidents that had put Rangers into their commanding half-time lead.

Maddix was not picked up when he headed in Meaker's corner. Braceshaw was off the



Ferdinand: second goal

field having a head wound stitched as Meaker opened up the defence for Ferdinand to round O'Reilly for the second. Harvey hesitated, to be robbed by Ferdinand, and when O'Reilly's attempt to retrieve matters left him stranded, Gallen neatly turned his partner's cross into an empty net.

Would it have made a difference if the match had been permitted to go ahead at Buckingham Road, Steve Kerridge, the Aylesbury manager, was asked. "The ground is a lot tighter and we might have been able to get the ball into their penalty area a bit more," he said, while admitting the answer was not much.

On Kerridge's short-term agenda was a party at the stadium (green wigs only) and Newbury in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup tomorrow. Long term, the manager suggested that the players might absorb the lessons learnt from thoroughly professional Rangers and that he might badge the board for a share in the £70,000 takings to strengthen Aylesbury for their next big day.

AYLESBURY UNITED (4-4-2): P. O'Hare — C. Harvey, M. Barnes, A. Puckroose, N. Bennet (left), J. Braceshaw, 80min — S. Hallett, I. Hazel, P. Hobbs, I. Brayshaw — C. Hercules, M. Danney (left), P. Murray, 80.  
QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): A. Roberts — D. Barclay, D. Maguire, A. McDonald, C. Wilson — A. Hays, S. Butler (left), I. Wallace, 80, S. Houghton, 10 (left) — K. Gallen (right), C. Allen, 89, I. Ferdinand.  
Referee: P. Jones.

## Parma lose lead to Juventus

FABRIZIO RAVANELLI scored twice inside four minutes to enable Juventus to knock Parma off the top of the first division with a 3-1 victory in the Serie A in Italy yesterday. The win gives Juventus a two-point lead over Parma with a game in hand. Roma are third, a further four points adrift.

Dino Baggio, the former Juventus player, gave Parma the lead against the run of play in the 57th minute, receiving a pass from Zola before beating Peruzzi with a powerful, angled shot, but within four minutes Juventus had claimed a fortunate equaliser when Galli, the Parma substitute goalkeeper, misjudged a lofted cross from Sousa and watched helplessly as the ball sailed into the net.

Ravanelli put the visitors in front in the seventeenth minute, stooping to head a low, hard cross from Vitelli past the hapless Galli, and scored his second from the penalty spot after a needless foul on Vitelli by Apolloni. The win extended Juventus' unbeaten run to eight matches.

## Celtic embark on high road to goal

IN GLASGOW, a city where the welfare state has always had its work cut out, anyone over 5ft 6in can expect to be called "big man". With that description used so loosely, the local vocabulary may need a new term altogether when confronted by a 6ft 5in Dutchman who sometimes sports nearly barbered dreadlocks. Celtic have signed Pierre van Hooijdonk, the 25-year-old NAC Breda striker, for £1.25 million.

He was in Glasgow on Saturday to see the building site from which a vast new Celtic Park is beginning to rise and will also have learnt that his prospective team-mates fell flat on their faces, yet again, in a 1-1 draw with Dundee United at Hampden Park. At least he must realise there is a vacancy for his services in a side which struggles to score. In the Dutch league, Van Hooijdonk has dispensed two goals for every three games played and was recently capped.

Other clubs were thought to be interested but Schalke 04 and Werder Bremen, from the Bundesliga, did not table firm offers. Feyenoord's bid was reported to have been made up of £500,000 and two players. The straight cash available from Celtic appealed to Breda more and Van Hooijdonk completed the for-

malises yesterday. He will not only be taking on the premier division defences but also going against the grain of Scottish football. Its hall of fame contains few strapping strikers. The first layer of explanation for this may lie in the poverty and bad nutrition that ensured, for most of this century, that people in these parts did not, in general, grow tall.



Scottish commentary

Scotland, though, also prefers its heroes diminutive. The ancestral memories are of the Wembley Wizards, the 5-1 winners over England in 1928, whose biggest forward was Alex Jackson, at 5ft 6in. Day-dreams of the Sixties are populated by little wingers, like Jimmy Johnstone, or the mid-field player, Billy Bremner, whose great pugnicity was packed into a small frame.

To watch such men succeed

is to share David's satisfaction in slaying Goliath. For a small nation such as Scotland, which knows itself to be dwarfed in the world, the example of the Wembley Wizards has always had great resonance. For the same reason, there are predictable misgivings about the giants who travel to play in these parts.

The initial antagonism to Mark Hateley did not stem merely from the fact that he had come to take Ally McCoist's job in the Rangers team. People thought him a rough, big lunk whose services had been wisely dispensed with by England at the 1986 World Cup. Forwards with his build tend to be sneered at. If they do score, it is assumed to represent the triumph of crude strength.

It is a widespread prejudice, perfectly summed up by the Italian coach who dismissed the England striker of the 1950s, Derek Kevan, by saying, "He only scores with the outside of his head." Of course, that need not be true of everyone with an imposing physique. Big men can be quick-witted. It was Hateley's finesse and astute play, as much as his aggression, that eventually made him an idol at Ibrox.

Spectators and managers alike express surprise when a tall striker turns out to have a

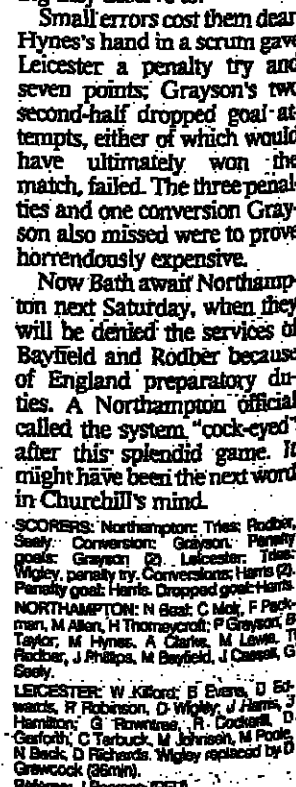
delicate touch, but the logic is faulty. Does anyone really suppose that somewhere between 5ft 10in and 6ft 2in the central nervous system pegs out and all hope of coordination vanishes? If a lofty player lacks technique it may only be because coaches never demanded it of him in his formative years.

Van Hooijdonk's attributes will begin to be assessed when he makes his debut against Heart of Midlothian on Wednesday. For his part, the Dutchman is sure to be greeted with warmth. Celtic are sorely in need of assistance. A chronic inability to convert dainty passing into goals has hobbled them and Saturday's result was their eighth draw in nine league matches.

Blindness around the opposition penalty area could make Celtic vulnerable even in their home tie with St Mirren in the Tennents Scottish Cup third round. The draw contained little mischief, although it did send Rangers to meet Hamilton Academical, who beat them in the 1987 tournament. Burntisland Shipyard, with a 6-2 win over St Cubbert Wanderers on Saturday, reached the third round for the first time, but they now face likely defeat against either Keith or Huntly. The big time, this Fife club may reflect, is all danger and no glamour.



# Acto





The weekend Victoria Davis went from landlubber into a dab hand with a dinghy; plus Aegean thrills

## Across the river and on to the sea

Just two hours after taking up sailing, I felt one of the most exhilarating sensations I have experienced: tacking up and down a river at what seemed like a hundred miles an hour, although my instructor assured me that it was only about ten.

I was hanging over the side of a Wayfarer dinghy as it surged across the river, something I could not have imagined myself doing a short while before. But now I was hooked, relishing the feeling of being bent double and clinging on to the boat for dear life.

A student studying Media and Communications at the University of Central England, in Birmingham, about as far from the coast as you can get, I had never thought of participating in a sport such as sailing. But I could not resist the opportunity to try.

I went to learn at Linguist Sailing School, on Oulton Broad in Norfolk, a training establishment



Victoria Davis earns her water wings: "On my first day I helped to rig the boat, get the hang of all the different ropes, learnt to duck sufficiently to miss the boom and, most importantly, stayed on board"

### SPORT FOR ALL

examined and recognised by the Royal Yachting Association. The school's clubhouse gives a marvellous view of the River Waveney and North Bay.

The weather could not have been better for my first taste of the sport. It was clear and bright, although the wind was slightly too strong, making the water a little choppy for an inexperienced hand such as myself.

Totally unprepared and very disorganised, I had failed to bring any waterproof clothing, a necessity for this sport. Fortunately, the club was able to supply the essential waterproof all-in-one and a life-jacket, just in case. It does not matter how well-dressed you are, getting wet is to be expected.

Staggering to the fibreglass Wayfarer dinghy, looking something like the Michelin man, I managed, in a very unladylike fashion, to clamber aboard the boat. Once briefed on the basic technical aspects of sailing we were off. As my confidence increased I slowly learnt to hang off the side of the boat without the fear of somersaulting backwards over the edge.

Positioned in the bows I was in direct line of fire from the waves that crashed up and over me. I was not aware of how cold I was until the morning session was over and I squelched back over to the clubhouse and a cup of tea.

I felt I had learnt a lot in my first day of sailing. I had helped to rig the boat, get the hang of all the different ropes, learnt to duck sufficiently to miss the boom and, most importantly, stayed on board.

But this was just the first part of my weekend's sailing. The club offers the RYA National Dinghy Certificate scheme, which progresses in five levels from the very basics to a reasonable degree of competence. Lesson one, for example, consists of rigging a boat, learning about wind direction and general rules of the river.

There are courses for all ages and the safety aspect is very well observed by the school. Sarah, one of the instructors, sped around in an inflatable dinghy helping

#### LEARN TO SAIL

LEARN more about sailing at the London International Boat Show, which continues until Jan 15 at Earls Court, London. Opening times 10am to 7pm (9.30pm on Jan 12). Admission £8 for adults, £6.50 for senior citizens. Up to two children admitted free when accompanied by an adult. After 4pm, £5.50.

For information about local sailing clubs and schools send an a/c to the Royal Yachting Association, RYA House, Romney Road, Eastleigh, Hants SO50 9YA. Training department tel: 0703 629962. Victoria Davis was a guest of the Star Hotel, Great Yarmouth, (0493 842294) and Linguist Sailing School, Lowestoft, Suffolk (0502 572014). Linguist courses include the following: Dinghy sailing — £55 (one day); £90 (two days); Pegasus 800 Yacht — £100 (one day); £50 (half-day); £20 (taster). Minimum age eight years.

RYA National Dinghy Certificate Scheme: Level 1 — starting sailing; Level 2 — basic skills; Level 3 — improving techniques; Level 4 — racing techniques; Level 5 — advanced skills. To join the scheme costs £16 (adult); £5 (under-21s).

people who encountered problems and checking on the progress of any children in the class.

Sailing is a sport for all the family. Even if you have young children, the school caters for their needs as well as yours. If you are a capable sailor and want to sail on your own, the instructors are there to supervise the little ones.

On my second day, my instructor decided that I was knowledgeable enough to sail a 27-foot Pegasus 800 yacht. Much to my surprise and relief it was not much more difficult to sail than the Wayfarer.

It was the perfect day for my first attempt. Only a slight breeze could be felt and it made turning and sailing all the easier. My confidence grew as we successfully

navigated back and forth across the broad river. This was sailing and it was great.

Then I pulled the rope attached to the sail a bit too tightly. The wind caught the sails, thrusting us across the river virtually on our side. A capsize seemed inevitable, but somehow the boat slowly lurched upright with my instructor and me both still on board. I survived and can only say that I had a fabulous time.

My patient instructor assured me that practice makes perfect and, with the opportunity to sail regularly, I would improve on my sailing skills quickly. And if I find the time — and the money — I will no doubt try to get out there again.

After mastering the nimble skills of dinghy racing, enthusiasts may seek to graduate to the calmer sport of keel boat sailing. Sailing techniques are the same whatever a vessel's size and controlling a heavy displacement yacht may prove to be easier, drier and more comfortable than keeping a mettlesome dinghy upright in a strong blow.

The Royal Yachting Association has numerous courses covering coastal and deepwater navigation, as well as the other skills required to make the natural progression from small to large craft, but paper qualifications are not mandatory. How best to make the graduation depends on what you are prepared to invest in money and time, and how committed you will remain towards using the yacht once she is yours.

Buying a yacht means a substantial capital investment. Even a small, used vessel of the pocket cruiser variety may cost the thick end of £8,000. But a sailing craft that is longer and heavier will be more satisfying and allow more ambitious cruises. The price of a yacht that cuts through heavy weather with a purposeful drive will be at least £14,000 for a used vessel in reasonable condition and at least three times that for a new model. Add the cost of marina fees, equipment and maintenance, and the annual bill may dampen the sailor's enthusiasm.

A half-way step towards ownership that gives a taste of keel boat

### This fun's for hire



You do not have to own a keel boat to take to the high seas

cruising without the heavy financial implications is provided by chartering. Robin Paine, a director of the Moorings, an international charter company with bases in just about every idyllic location around the world, says: "Having invested so much in buying a boat there is often a feeling that every spare minute must be devoted to it in order to justify the investment. Chartering avoids that heavy capital investment and all the costs that are part of ownership."

"It makes the choice of available sailing more flexible and opens up sailing areas that would take many weeks to reach in your own boat." Air charter linked to boat

hire can provide a very cost-effective package.

There were four of us in the party that flew into Athens and took a taxi in the early hours to the Kalamaki-Alimos marina where the Moorings fleet is based. The company will arrange a hotel room but we opted to sleep the few hours until dawn beneath a tree, enjoying the soft warmth of an Aegean night. Smile 10, our 31ft Sun Odyssey, had been checked and prepared. We were briefed on the boat by the Moorings staff and went through the inventory. Then it was simply a question of stowing the victuals and baggage aboard, chugging out of harbour

on the engine and hoisting sail for the Cyclades, a scattering of 39 islands south-east of Athens.

A yacht is the ideal, compact mobile base from which to explore the islands. Smile 10 was well equipped and easy to handle with a jib that could be rolled on to the forestay without leaving the cockpit, a mainsail that was simple to reef and a diesel engine below decks to make harbour manoeuvres easy. Only the anchor caused the crew backache and sore thumbs.

Paper qualifications are not necessary in Greece, although skipper and crew will be asked to present their previous sailing experience to reassure the charter company. "We're happiest to know what sailing you have done in the past and dinghy enthusiasts are usually good," Paine says. "Sailing people tend to be fairly cautious, in fact over-cautious. A lot get the hang of handling keel boats on a flotilla sailing holiday where no experience is necessary. But none of the 29 charter bases we have around the world is in a sailing area where there are likely to be serious hazards."

"And, for £354 each when four people share a 31ft yacht, air fares included, chartering becomes a very reasonably priced holiday."

RONALD FAUX

Details of yacht charter holidays available from The Moorings at 188 Northdown Road, Cliffonsville, Kent CT9 3QN (tel 0843 22170, fax 0843 228784)

### Sterile Saracens scrape home

Saracens ..... 17  
Moseley ..... 15

By BRYAN STILES

BOTH teams turned out in kits that were variations on a red, white and black theme on Saturday, and there were times when it was difficult to fathom which of them were the team leading the second division of the Courage Clubs Championship, and which were the strugglers.

Moseley came embarrassingly close to snatching a victory that would have lifted them away from the danger zone and put a significant dent in Saracens' promotion hopes. Saracens should have known what to expect. Moseley have been one of the teams against whom they have never been able to rattle up a large score, even when they have had a much superior combination.

On paper, reputation and performance, Saracens should have had little difficulty winning on their own ground, but they were trailing 15-10 with five minutes left and just managed to scrape home by a goal, and two tries to a goal, a try and a penalty goal.

With Waterloo, their nearest rivals before the match, losing at Newcastle Gosforth, this victory

extended Saracens' lead in the table to six points, and if they can continue to play with as little imagination and get away with it, they will be laughing all the way into the first division.

Moseley must have felt things were not going to go their way when they lost the services of their four leading hookers and had to settle for their inexperienced under-21 player, Stuart Caley. Caley must have shared the sentiment when he lost the first scrum against the head. Happily for him, he was wrong. It was not long before he had adjusted to the pace of the game and was in the thick of some spirited charges and winning his share of the ball in the scrums. The experience will have broadened his front-row education.

However, Caley had entered the "big time" in a poor game. The play was so scrappy in the first half that a wag in the crowd suggested that if it had been a Formula One race, one side would have represented a Robin Reliant and the other a bubble car. Neither side functioned smoothly, both grum-

bling that it was because of the large hole put in the season by the divisional championships. Saracens had played only one match in eight weeks, having lost their scheduled game the previous Saturday to a frozen pitch.

It had looked as if Saracens were going to control the game when Wilson, a prop, turned up on the wing in the twentieth minute to round off a sweeping move into the corner. They went close several times, but lack of sharpness allowed Moseley to escape. The biggest escape, though, was conjured up by Anderson, the Moseley wing who wriggled out of four tackles before scoring the try that made it 5-5 at half-time.

Hill crossed the line with a burst from close range, but Kerr kicked a penalty goal and converted his own try to give Moseley a 15-10 lead. That set Saracens' alarm bells ringing, and with five minutes to go Gregory crossed from a tap penalty to save the day.

SCORERS: Saracens: Hill, Gregory. Conversion: Tunnings. Moseley: Tunnings, Kerr. Conversion: Kerr. Penalty goal: Kerr.

SARACENS: A Tunnings; M Gregory, J Buckton, A Hill, P Butler, A Lee, S Davies, R Andrews, G Bottoms, S Wilson, A Diposa, M Langley, J Green, R Hill, S Crawley. Butler replaced by T Ellis (injured).

MOSELEY: C Dossell; E Anderson, A Kerr, J Bonney, D Payne, S Hodgkinson, G Boscawen, R Fuller, S Caley, N Webster, R Pull, G Watson, M Bright, B Robinson, S Owen. Replaced: D Matthews (knee-pool).

Full rugby results and tables ..... Page 30

### Imports heighten Japan's prospects

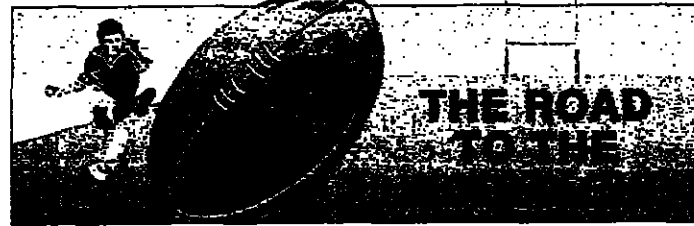
By IAN WILLIAMS

THE next few years will be crucial for Japanese rugby. Domestically the game is under pressure to compete with the phenomenal success of the professional J-League in football, rugby crowds have fallen dramatically and the sport has been relegated to minority status in terms of mass-communication interest.

The Japanese football team only narrowly failed to qualify for their World Cup finals last year so it is essential that rugby shows the Japanese public it is truly an international sport by having next summer's World Cup games shown in their entirety. The Japanese are very parochial and a World Cup without national participation would be relegated to satellite television in the small hours.

So 1994 has to be regarded as an encouraging year, following as it did a season in which Japan lost twice to Argentina and, by a record margin of 55-5, to Wales. All-Japan finished the year unbeaten in nine games, although none of their opponents are in the World Cup.

This record has also bought breathing space for Osame Koyabu, the head coach, who was under extreme pressure after a series of poor showings since he took over in 1992. But he has shown



himself to be a determined character and has now settled on the nucleus of players who will carry Japan through 1995.

They include a number of imports who have increased Japan's firepower. Height and mobility have been added by the inclusion of Bruce Ferguson, the lock from Fiji, and the two Tongan back-row players, Sinai Lau and Stone Lau (no relation).

Although smaller in stature, until recently the Japanese team have always been fitter than their opponents and have been able to run them off their feet — when able to secure enough possession. But the increased athleticism and physical fitness of the world's leading teams, coupled with law changes which favour the in/out over the scrum, have made life difficult.

Moreover, Japan, while possessing a core of deceptive runners from broken play, have tended to

suffer from a lack of overall strategy and tactical awareness. But this year Koyabu has introduced the theme of "quick and clever" to describe the team pattern, emphasising taking the ball forward twice, realigning quickly and pushing the ball wide as fast as possible.

With good speed on the wings in Yoshida and Masuho, and Matsuda always eager to join the line from full back, it seems a sensible policy. There is little point in playing a tight, mauling game when physically the Japanese will never be able to compete with the upper-body strength of the top teams.

Several players remain in the squad who have experience of the 1991 World Cup but none of the class of Hirao, Hosokawa or the former Oxford University prop, Hayashi. However, the star performer for Japan this summer

could be Keiji Hirose, 21, the stand-off half whose goalkicking was a decisive factor in the final of the Asian Championship against South Korea.

Hirose kicked six goals from eight attempts on a wet ground, all from acute angles, in Japan's 26-15 victory. The team also showed they have some excellent tacklers but many of them have yet to experience the physical and mental demands of 80 minutes of international football against top-class opponents.

Japan are in a demanding pool, with New Zealand, Wales and Ireland, and supporters planning to travel to South Africa may well opt for the ten-day short tour rather than that which includes the quarter-finals.

Yet Japan should turn out to be one of the most entertaining sides, punctuating their performances with flashes of brilliance in attack and blunders in defence. In 1991, Canada and Western Samoa were supposed to be cannon fodder in their pool games and both reached the quarter-finals. It may be time for the sun to rise again.

□ Ian Williams, the former Australia international, moved to Tokyo in 1989 and has made one international appearance for Japan.















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Further details are available from the school (Telephone 0779-523148). Closing date for applications is Wednesday, 1st February.

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Further particulars from the Director of Human Resources Management, The University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN. Tel: 0114 282 4144. Closing date for applications 3 February 1995. Ref: R507.

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For an information pack containing further particulars, please contact The Personnel Office, The Registry, The University, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ. Telephone (01227) 764000 extension 3674 or (01227) 475482 (24 hour answerphone). Please quote reference number A95/32.

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An application form and further details can be obtained from: Human Resources Department, South Bank University, 103 Borough Road, London SE1 0AA. Tel: 071-815 4223 (24 hour answering service).

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Further particulars are obtainable from the Warden's Secretary, Merton College, Oxford OX1 4JD, UK, (tel: 0865-276552 (answering) or fax: 0865-276222).

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Informal enquiries about the post may be made to Professor John Chartres, Chairman of the School of Business and Economic Studies, tel: 0532 334500; Professor Jim Lynch, tel: 0532 332626, or Professor Kevin Keasey, tel: 0532 332618.

The University of Leeds is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Women and members of ethnic minorities are under-represented in the University in posts of this level and the University would therefore particularly welcome applications from members of such groups whilst, however, affirming that the appointment will be made entirely on merit.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from (Mrs) Sally M D Wheeler, Personnel Director (room 11/18), Office of the Registrar, The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK, tel: 0532 335775 (direct line) quoting reference number 31/124.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, 8 February 1995.

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY 1995  
MBA COURSES FEATURE

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Further details and application forms are available from, or letter of application and full CV should be sent to, the Director of Personnel, Personnel Office, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0115 9515775. Ref No UMCM/003.

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For an informal discussion with the Principal, John Stoddart please contact: 0114 253 2050.

For an information pack, contact the Personnel Department, Sheffield Hallam University City Campus, Pond Street, Sheffield S1 1WB. Telephone: 0114 253 2923.

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The Admissions Secretary, Devonshire House School, 2 Ashcroft Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire YO10 5AD.

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# Linking schools worldwide

The new system, developed at Edinburgh University and called SchoolServer, may spark fresh interest in the Net in schools.



**Pupils at Sarah Bonnell School in east London using Apple Macs, multimedia software and the Internet will "add excitement" to lessons.**

The company envisages schools using computers for teaching and homework, as well as for administration and management, and even speculates about a future involving

Some of the most imaginative projects for younger age groups are run by the Jewish education and training organisation, World ORT Union, which is based in London. After more than 50 years running international programmes, it sees the Internet as the ideal vehicle for linking schools, communities or individual students, and has invest-

Another innovative scheme is Kidlink, which puts British teenagers in touch with counterparts all over the world. Live conversations over the Internet take place largely through youth clubs. More formally, the European Schools Project, based in The Netherlands, has spawned a number of valuable programmes for teachers.

But the mushrooming of interest that the Mill Hill group expects is not yet evident, although a larger meeting is to be held in the spring, at which the idea of a directory of resources to guide schools will be explored. The Internet is fundamentally anarchic, and its enthusiasts are wary of anything that smacks of trying to exert control. But a little dispassionate advice may be what is required to build confidence in schools.

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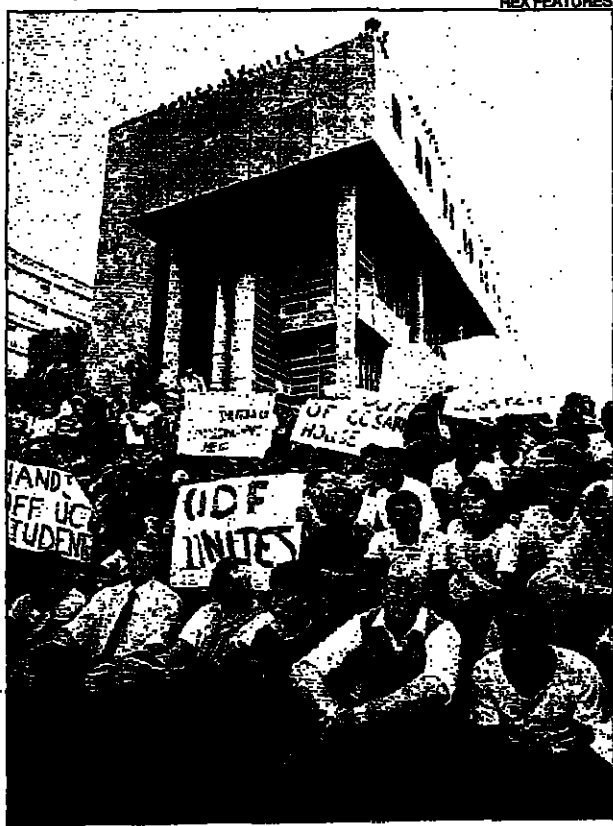
Articles published on this page are available in the education forum and have triggered a series of lively discussions. The service also provides access to a number of educational networks in the United States.

Access to the forum — and the rest of the Internet — is available through UK Delphi, which is offering a five-hour free trial. Details by E-mail from [ukservice@delphi.com](mailto:ukservice@delphi.com) or on 071-757 7080.

## South Africa's universities are in a state of collapse. R. W. Johnson reports

# Campuses in chaos

The HBU's, despite attempts to market themselves as both the most discriminated against and also the most progressive universities, are in the worst plight. A decade and more of continuous student rebellion has left them awash in a culture of permanent confrontation and populist extremism. At the same time "open entry" (ie, entry for all, regardless of qualification) has led to huge intakes and a calamitous collapse in standards, to the point where many students are barely literate in the language of instruction.



### Students demonstrate at Wits University in the Eighties

The Special English-speaking universities have also been racked by student troubles. Typically, these sect radical white students pitted against black universities authorities. When a half the students now coming from (appalling) low-towarding schools, academic standards are under pressure. Exam failures by black students (especially repeated failures leading to exclusion from the university) frequently lead to violent trouble, with the populist demands of "pass one, pass all" and "one student, one degree". Moreover, more and more black students have fallen into arrears on their fees, some (really) because they believe

The travails of the English-speaking universities are particularly tragic, not only because they are the best, and because they took such a strong anti-apartheid stand throughout the dark years, but also because they, more than any other institutions, embody

Finally, there is the question of the new Government's attitudes to the universities. With so many of their alumni in leading positions in government, the HBUs now expect preferential treatment at the expense of the formerly white elite universities. There is real fear among the latter that this could lead to a levelling down process, just as there are worries as to how committed the Government will be to the idea of academic freedom and university autonomy.

There is talk on the ANC

There is no doubt that the universities have been remarkably adaptable. They have survived pretty well intact through apartheid, an urban guerrilla war and a peaceful revolution.

How well they can weather the storms ahead remains to be seen.

# Taxing times for undergraduates

A graduate tax band is a fair and simple means of funding university students

That day has arrived. The dramatic expansion of higher education over the past few years means there are simply too many students for the State to pay each of them a living wage while they study for three years.

I for one am fed up with the current mess. I qualify for a pathetic grant of about £6 a term. I have to study in London on the combination of a parental contribution (£260 a month, which covers my rent), a student loan (£1,375 a year,

(currently £400 and counting) and casual work (part-time barman earning £100 a month at £3 an hour). If the post delays the parental cheque, a computer at the Student Loans Company headquarters bungles my form or a tough nut behind the counter at Barclays Bank gets stroppy, I am left in abject poverty. This position is shared by many of my contemporaries, and is the inevitable consequence of the Government's hotchpotch system — part grant, part loan, part something-will-turn-up — for financing students.

As bank balances dwindle during the academic year, more students are turning to the Student Loans Company as a temporary financial life raft until the next source pays up. It will have to be paid back, but undergraduates are happy with the idea of giving back later what we make use of now.

The Labour Party appears to be coming to terms with the fact that it cannot afford to hand out full cost-of-living grants to every student without demanding some kind of

Such a scheme may not find favour with the National Union of Students, but individual students are tired of funding themselves piecemeal. Debt is no longer a dirty word — but debt to the State rather than to banks or credit card companies is preferable.

A graduate tax is an easy solution to the problem of funding. It offers a fair way of ensuring that those whose subsequent earnings are

whose subsequent earnings are the greatest pay for the education that has given them such an advantage. Full cost-of-living grants could be administered and delivered by the Department for Education, to be funded by the Exchequer through a new tax band for graduates, repayable either to the value of the individual's grant, or as a permanent basis.

When presented with the idea recently Eric Forth, the Education Minister, seemed delighted. Such a system would be ideal, he said — but impossible.

It seems from Mr Forth's comments that the initial costs are considered too immense for it ever to be viable. He talked of "real restrictions" which barred massive expenditure by governments, regardless of later returns.

The mood among students has changed. The relative inflation over the latest grant cuts — 10 per cent reductions for the next three years — is a good litmus test of student opinion. The Commission for Social Justice has driven Labour into action, and it is now time for the Government to move and examine alternatives to the present shambles. I would be happy to be able to have milk and honey today and repay the money tomorrow, when I am earning a decent salary.

CRAIG HOY

● The author is an undergraduate at the City University in London

## EDUCATION

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# Praise the lord, but keep an eye on the nanny

What I want to know is: will Little Lord Fauntleroy go to the dogs? Will his fresh, democratic American ways finally be undermined by the aristocratic English? Alas, this seems too likely an outcome. Currently, however, this extraordinary little kid with the big scoter-helmet of yellow hair spends his Sunday teatimes on BBC1 smiling hello to servants, pressing flesh as though electrified, and attempting to charm his grumpy old English grandfather with bright Yankee compliments, such as "You must be real proud of your house, sir" (meaning the loveless castle from which Little Lord Fauntleroy's great-grandfather is great-grandfathered).

Little Lord Fauntleroy is great entertainment, and after two episodes it is a tribute to everybody (but especially Michael Benz) that this little boy's manner doesn't make you sick to your stomach.

"Did you ever know anyone who had such a kind grandfather?" he exclaims sincerely, on finding a consignment of toys (really bribes) outside his bedroom. Whenever he makes such effusive comments, the servants purse their lips and exchange glances. Of course the grumpy old man (George Baker, in a fine imitation of Jack Hawkins) will relent at last. But meanwhile, the real joy would be to catch the Little Lord taking off his wig, lighting a Marlboro, and exclaiming: "Jeepers, this is hard work!"

Do children enjoy Little Lord Fauntleroy? Do they think the hero is a sissy, or does he make them want to be selfless, grateful, supportive of their mothers and uncomplaining about terrible haircuts? Little Lord Fauntleroy is something we must learn to accept. Well-heeled Baby Boomers now have control of our broadcast corporations; naturally, their

own executive concerns are sometimes reflected in the stuff we get on our screens. Was it a coincidence, for example, that *Birch* Night came hot on the heels of Alan Yentlow's own happy event? Anyway, now we've reached the nanny saga, but don't switch off. Written by Sandy Welch, and directed by the dependably good Tristram Powell, *Years before Bedtime* is dark and weird, with

occasional splurges of satire, and occasional shudders of horror. Paranoia is the key. Sometimes paranoia is funny: the all-powerful Nanny Agency is conceived as an ops centre from *The Avengers*, with video screens, fishbanks and minimal furniture. But sometimes paranoia makes you scream — as when the nannies, alone in the house, routinely raid computer files, scurrying through drawers for interesting restaurant recipes, or try on everybody's clothes.

Our heroes, Sarah and David Baylis (Samantha Bond and Adrian Rawlins) seem like nice, blameless people. Their first experience of a nanny is an obsessive-compulsive who washes clothes at dawn and night, and turns nasty when given the sack. "You're a filthy cow, Mrs Baylis! You'll be on the Nanny Agency blacklist!" Yikes. At the end of episode one, they have acquired a nice placid girl called Katherine (Julie Cox), who

## REVIEW



Lynne Truss

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appears loyal and kind, though creepily she tells the kid a bedtime story about running away from home. However, given the ghastly social milieu enjoyed by the Baylises, an early abandonment probably isn't such a bad idea.

Other new things over the weekend included *The Last Machine* on Saturday (BBC2), a magical, semi-dramatised account of early cinema, including clips from such interesting films as *What Happened in the Tunnel* (1903) and *How It Feels to be Run Over* (1900). Early films were apparently fixated on forms of transport, especially fantasy flights to the Moon, and vehicles exploding. Alice's looking-glass railway journey somehow earned its place in the story, with a re-creation of Tenniel's illustration, complete with seated goat. The point here was that the invention of film gave us our first

unforgettable chance to see reality run backwards — bits of a demolished wall rising up out of rubble, and jumping to attention.

Finally, Friday nights *The High Life* (BBC2) was an energetic new sitcom, starring (and written by) Alan Cumming and Forbes Masson as two camp Scottish aristocrats given to synchronised exclamations of "Ooh, dearie me!" and patting their eyebrows. From the hilarity of the opening titles (high-kicking cabin crews singing Pearl & Dean "Pa-pa-pas" about *The High Life* in an empty hangar) to the glass-eyed spaciness of their regular pilot (Patrick Rycart) it was inventive and silly by turns, and wonderfully vigorous. Slobhan Redmond gave a fine comic turn as the stewardess, a harridan boss, and an incidental detail was a self-help book called *Dinnae be Fear: Grab Life by the Nuts* — not a bad motto for the whole production.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast (58118)
- 7.00 Breakfast News (18738248)
- 9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (8096644)
- 10.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (1974084) 10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekly magazine series (8525353)
- 12.00 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (7427712) 12.05 Pebble Mill introduced by Alan Titchmarsh (s) (6423977) 12.55 Regional News and weather (7808441)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (26822)
- 1.30 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (s) (9155170) 1.50 Timeskeepers. Quiz show (s) (9155226)
- 2.15 Knots Landing. American drama series (s) (9147083) 3.00 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pepin with more recipes (273)
- 3.30 Cartoon (5782228) 3.45 Bodger and Badger. A new series of the young children's show (5780083) 4.00 Jeopardy. Christopher Guard with part one of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* (8001441) 4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant. (CeeFax) (s) (4651083) 4.35 Tomorrow's End. Australian feature drama (s) (CeeFax) (4781170)
- 5.00 Newsround (9891084) 5.10 Blue Peter. (CeeFax) (s) (1728248)
- 5.35 Neighbours. (CeeFax) (s) (439606)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (CeeFax) and weather (488)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazines (441)
- 7.00 NEW Champion. Telly Addicts. Noel Edmonds begins a special tournament involving the winners from the past ten years (s) (7002)
- 7.30 Watchdog. The first of two programmes investigating possible pitfalls for holidaymakers. (CeeFax) (s) (525)
- 8.00 EastEnders. (CeeFax) (s) (3422)

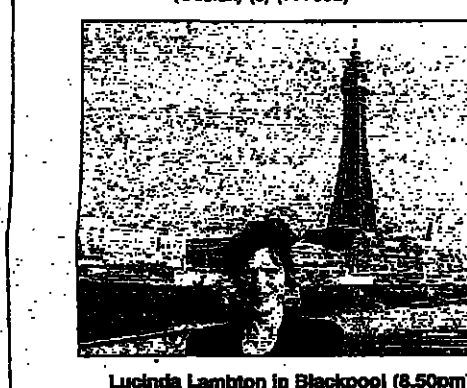


Powell, Sewell and Carrot (8.30pm)

- 8.30 NEW The Detectives. The return of the comedy series starring Jasper Carrott, Robert Powell and George Sewell. (CeeFax) (s) (2557)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (6977)
- 9.30 TREASURES IN TRUST. (CeeFax) (471335)
- 10.45 Match of the Day: The Road to Wembley. Highlights of tonight's FA Cup third-round game between Sheffield United and Manchester United at Bramall Lane (s) (85500)
- 11.25 Film 95 With Barry Norman. Stargate. Eat Drink Man Woman and other Zee are among the films reviewed. (CeeFax) (s) (640480) Northern Ireland: The Back Page 11.50 Film 95 12.20-2.00 Ems — Viewers' Choice
- 11.55 Elvis — Viewers' Choice. The chance to vote to see one of the following Elvis Presley films — *Viva Las Vegas* (1954), *Follow That Dream* (1962) and *30 Couch Potato Special*, in which he sings 27 of his hits (571227)
- 1.35 Weather (887294)

## BBC2

- 7.00 Dilly the Dinosaur (s) (4903267) 7.05 Bump (s) (4902538) 7.10 E's Lesson. (CeeFax) (8252793) 7.35 Toxic Crusaders (s). (CeeFax) (1482793)
- 8.00 Breakfast News. (CeeFax and signing) (8380267) 8.15 Holiday Outings (704625) 8.20 Backstage Maestro. A profile of a Japanese hotel troubleshooter (7502480) 8.50 A Week to Remember (s). (CeeFax) (3262565)
- 9.00 The Making of A Night To Remember (b/w) (86083) 10.00 Playdays (s) (3289147)
- 10.25 FILM: That's Entertainment Part Two (1976) introduced by Gene Kelly and Fred Astaire (7296896)
- 12.30 Working Lunch (61354)
- 1.00 Charlie Chalk (s) (1320088)
- 1.15 The Infinite Voyage (s) (8395880)
- 2.10 FILM: The Last Best Year (1990) starring Bernadette Peters and Mary Tyler Moore. An emotional drama directed by John Erman. Includes News and weather at 3.00 (82557) 3.50 News (CeeFax), regional news and weather (4701921)
- 4.00 Today's Day (s) (854)
- 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (538)
- 5.00 NEW The Oprah Winfrey Show. A discussion on gossip-mongering and how to prevent it (5880)
- 5.45 NEW Decisions. (708373)
- 6.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century. Vintage science-fiction adventures (s) (8055460)
- 7.35 Danger Theatre. Comedy crime series. (CeeFax) (s) (873151)
- 8.00 Horizon: Tibet — The Ice Mother. (CeeFax) (s) (777966)



Lucinda Lambton in Blackpool (8.50pm)

- 8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain. *Fis For a Fun Day Out*. (CeeFax) (s) (822373)
- 9.00 Sceptre and Son (s). (CeeFax) (7847)
- 9.30 Broken Lives. A drama documentary following three cases of adultery and marital disharmony in 18th-century Britain (200557)
- 10.15 Richard Dimbleby at Belsen (653806)
- 10.30 Newswatch. (CeeFax) (531118)
- 11.15 Face To Face. Jeremy Isaacs interviews Allen Ginsberg (s) (486354) 11.55 Weather (842286)
- 12.00 FILM: Moulin Rouge (1928, b/w). A silent romantic drama, which has been given a jazz soundtrack performed by the Met Ensemble. Directed by E.A. Dupont (s) (38949). Ends at 1.30
- 4.45 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (1725661)
- 5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update (81322)

## VARIATIONS

### ANGLIA

- As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (9150825) 2.20 Kelp in the Family (1728073) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (575915) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (829070) 6.25-6.30 Anglia News and Weather (575915) 6.30-6.40 News (575915) 6.40-6.50 News (575915) 6.50-7.00 News (575915) 7.00-7.10 News (575915) 7.10-7.20 News (575915) 7.20-7.30 News (575915) 7.30-7.40 News (575915) 7.40-7.50 News (575915) 7.50-8.00 News (575915) 8.00-8.10 News (575915) 8.10-8.20 News (575915) 8.20-8.30 News (575915) 8.30-8.40 News (575915) 8.40-8.50 News (575915) 8.50-9.00 News (575915) 9.00-9.10 News (575915) 9.10-9.20 News (575915) 9.20-9.30 News (575915) 9.30-9.40 News (575915) 9.40-9.50 News (575915) 9.50-10.00 News (575915) 10.00-10.10 News (575915) 10.10-10.20 News (575915) 10.20-10.30 News (575915) 10.30-10.40 News (575915) 10.40-10.50 News (575915) 10.50-11.00 News (575915) 11.00-11.10 News (575915) 11.10-11.20 News (575915) 11.20-11.30 News (575915) 11.30-11.40 News (575915) 11.40-11.50 News (575915) 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# BUSINESS

MONDAY JANUARY 9 1995

HOUSE PRICES 38

GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
SAYS DEVELOPERS  
STILL KNOW BEST

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK



Waiting for the boat to come in: Simon Conibear of PCG Developments, hopes that Japanese or other Far Eastern groups will buy Portland naval base

Naval base could be entry port

## Portland woos Japanese

By JON ASHWORTH

PORTLAND naval base, Dorset, is being considered for sale to the Japanese as an exclusive entry port for goods into Europe. The base, due to close early next year under the Government's defence cuts programme, would be run entirely on Japanese lines.

Developers believe that Portland's deep water and sheltered anchorage make it the ideal "Japan Port Europe" for importers seeking a holding area for goods in transit. They currently face long delays at traditional ports of entry such as Felixstowe and Rotterdam.

The package on offer includes Europe's largest man-made harbour and about 350 acres of portside facilities. Workshops, offices and accommodation are available on site. The complex could fetch up to £10 million.

Simon Conibear of PCG Developments, a Bath consultancy, says the site would make an ideal European base for a Japanese company or consortium. Mr Conibear said: "This is one of the most significant opportunities for an overseas operator since the Second World War. So

far the world does not seem to have recognised it." PCG is concentrating its efforts on Japan, but is also targeting South Korea. Grimsley J R Eve is the Government's agent.

The base is situated on the Isle of Portland near Weymouth — a haven for retired naval commanders and army officers. Up to 4,300 jobs are to be lost in the closure, which will see the navy's sea training operations transferred to Devonport, Plymouth. The move is expected to save up to £70 million over 10 years.

Various options have been considered for the site, including plans for a waste oil recycling facility. Peter de Savary, the developer, is thought to have considered developing a Land's End-style marina and leisure complex. The Russian fishing fleet has expressed an interest.

Europe remains a key market for Japan. More than 40 Japanese manufacturers have established subsidiaries in Wales, including Sony, Sharp and Toyota. In Scotland, Japanese companies are second only to the Americans in local investment, supporting up to 10,000 jobs.

## Price wars in stores to escalate

Supermarket price wars are likely to be extended to fresh and chilled foods, brand leaders and new premium products as the battle for market share intensifies, according to Verdict Research. Price cutting has until now concentrated on packaged goods and own brands.

Verdict's latest report says that the top four, Sainsbury, Tesco (excluding Wm Low), Safeway and Asda, have increased their market share from 29.2 per cent to 38.4 per cent in the past five years.

## Threat over Nadir debt

Asil Nadir's failure to clear his debts with the northern Cyprus government has provoked Turkey to threaten to cut its financial support to the Turkish Cypriots. Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, has told Rafi Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, that Turkey cannot maintain its high level of support if the authorities fail to recover large amounts owed to them by their own business community. Turkey has provided almost £50 million a year.

## Power sell-off

The Government is expected to launch its last major share sale before the next election, the £4 billion disposal of the outstanding minority stakes in PowerGen and National Power, the electricity generators. The marketing campaign is expected to begin in the next few days, with the pricing of the issue near the end of February.

## Bombay help

The City of London is helping Bombay to become one of Asia's leading financial centres. Michael Cassidy, policy chairman at the Corporation of London, is on a visit to advise politicians and bankers on strategic planning.

## Work councils to affect 300 UK companies

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE legally binding directive from Brussels requiring companies to set up European-style works councils is likely to affect up to three times as many UK-based companies than had been expected, according to new information privately presented to the Confederation of British Industry.

The large increase in the number of UK-based companies affected — thought to be about 300 — will increase concerns of the effect on key aspects of new European employment regulations on British companies despite the UK's opt-out from the Maastricht treaty's social chapter. Business leaders are also concerned about a new push on long-delayed social legislation in Europe now that France has assumed the EU presidency.

The worry that work councils will push up business costs, however, may be eased

by private guidance from the CBI that companies should consider the option of negotiating new consultation arrangements to avoid being affected by the directive.

Under the directive, multi-nationals with 1,000 employees in EU member states, including operations with more than 150 employees in at least two countries, will have to introduce by September 1996 work councils to provide for employee consultation on a range of corporate issues.

Although John Major negotiated an opt-out for Britain under the social chapter, under which the works council directive has been brought forward, business leaders have long accepted that a number of UK companies operating across Europe — thought to have been about 100 — would be affected by its provisions. But now new research by employment law

experts at Warwick University suggests that out of the number of UK-based companies on which the directive is likely to impact could well number three times that or more. The research suggests that out of the 1,000 companies worldwide likely to be affected, 300 or so could be UK-based, although only about 80 have been identified so far.

The research, to be published this month by Industrial Relations Services, the employment specialists, suggests that the number of companies could perhaps be even greater once details of corporate structure joint ventures and licensing or franchising arrangements are taken into account.

The CBI is indicating some softening of its all-out opposition to the works council directive, suggesting that companies facing the prospect of new consultation arrangements "are finding that, like many a hardened bachelor when faced with the unavoidable, the marriage may not be quite as dreadful as they fancied it might have been".

Companies will have time to explore the option of new consultation arrangements agreed voluntarily — such as those recently concluded by United Biscuits with the GMB general union — which if they are in place by the 1996 deadline will remove the company from the directive's requirements.

Private CBI guidance suggests that most companies will want to look at the possibility of a "pre-emptive" deal, though CBI leaders are warning companies that unions could use such an arrangement as a "stepping stone" to full collective bargaining at an international level.

Graham Searjeant, page 38

## New lease on life for the Halifax

By ROBERT MILLER

HALIFAX Life opens its doors for business for the first time today, part of the Halifax Building Society's challenge to the traditional might of the life companies. It will offer savings, banking and investment services.

The venture, representing a multimillion-pound investment, will include a fund-management arm with a range of unit trusts linked to personal equity plans and pension money. It will also offer protection plans and mortgage-related products. In-house fund managers and the services of Gartmore and Morgan Grenfell will be used.

When the Financial Services Act came into force in 1986, the Halifax opted to become an independent financial adviser, rather than selling the products of one particular life company. This experiment was abandoned in 1989. The society then linked up with Standard Life, a tie severed at the close of business on Saturday. National Westminster Bank also tried its hand at being an independent adviser. However, in January 1993, NatWest Life was launched. It pulled in more than £650 million in its first year to become the twelfth largest life company in the UK.

## Trafalgar forces shareholder vote in Northern fight

By GEORGE SIVELL, ASSISTANT BUSINESS EDITOR

TRAFALGAR HOUSE is to step up the battle to take over Northern Electric today by forcing a vote from the regional electricity company's shareholders on whether the 15 per cent limit on shareholdings should be removed.

Simon Keswick, chairman of Trafalgar, is widely expected to support his formal call for an extraordinary shareholders' meeting by revealing that he has secured the backing from holders of the necessary 10 per cent of Northern Electric equity.

Northern will, during the next few weeks, have to give its shareholders 21 days' notice of a special meeting. In the meantime, the formal offer document from Trafalgar is due out today.

It emerged last week that Swiss Bank Corporation, financial adviser to Trafalgar, had built a 3.5 per cent shareholding in Northern. At the same time, Yorkshire Electricity revealed that dealers at Swiss Bank had built an 8.2 per cent stake. Moves at Northern this week will be closely watched by other potential predators of the electricity distribution industry.

About 120,000 private indi-

viduals hold shares in Northern, many of them householders in its northeast England supply area. But the fate of the company is controlled by large City institutions. Northern rejected an earlier request to call an extraordinary meeting, but said yesterday: "Whatever happens, we look forward to fighting Trafalgar off, based on the merits of our past performance and future potential."

Two potentially strong defences present themselves to Northern. It could plead with the Office of Fair Trading to refer the issue to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This decision will be keenly awaited by others with takeover ambitions in the electricity sector.

The Government, whose controlling "golden share" in Northern runs out at the end of March, also has the power to order an inquiry. Northern will also be able to make great play on Trafalgar's chequered financial history. Trafalgar suffered badly from the recession, which wrought havoc on its property and engineering contracting interests, and from the disastrous takeover of Davy, the engineer.

## Credit up sharply in high street

By JANET BUSH

DEMAND for credit to finance high street shopping is at record levels, but the market for loans to buy new cars has weakened considerably, according to the latest figures from the Finance and Leasing Association.

Consumer credit was up 30 per cent in November compared with a year earlier. The increase was lower than that seen in the first half of 1994 because of the drop-off in demand for car finance.

Retail store credit in November was up 99 per cent year on year at £676 million, the highest figure recorded by the F&L. Finance for new cars was down 17 per cent, compared with a year ago.

David Hardisty, chairman of the finance association, said: "Despite appearances, these figures do not contradict the lower retail sales figures for November. Credit, particularly short-term credit on store cards, is now seen as a convenient, cost-effective alternative to cash, not a method of spending more."

Bank of England figures, which were released on Friday, showed a rise in overall consumer credit of £677 million in November. Consumer credit had risen by £541 million in October.

## Name sues accountants over losses

By SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT



Fawkes-Underwood: pioneer

A SELF-EMPLOYED dealer in antiquarian books is taking legal action against two small firms of chartered accountants in an attempt to win compensation for his Lloyd's losses. It is believed to be the first time a name has issued proceedings against a firm of accountants alleging breach of contract.

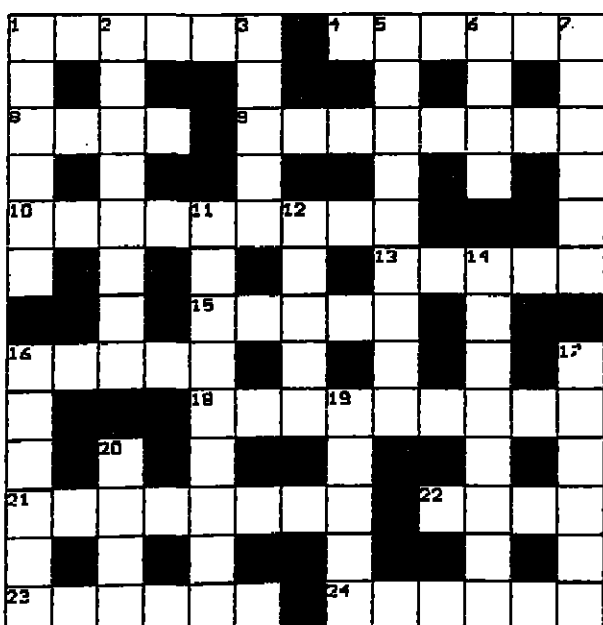
Keith Fawkes-Underwood, the name, claims that Hamiltons, formerly a three-partner firm based in Harrow, west London, and Hereward Phillips, a six-partner firm based in London, breached oral and written contracts.

Mr Fawkes-Underwood, 52, joined Lloyd's in 1985. During the years that followed, he lifted his underwriting limit from £300,000 to £1 million and reaped a total profit of about £10,000.

Then came the losses. According to John Mackenzie at Mackenzie Pearsaud, the firm of solicitors to Mr Fawkes-Underwood, his client has paid out about £300,000 in losses so far. This, however, is the tip of the iceberg: Mr Fawkes-Underwood is on numerous open years, while several syndicates have deferred demands for cash.

Mr Fawkes-Underwood's relationship with Hamiltons started in the summer of 1988. He moved to Hereward Phillips in 1990.

The firms of accountants held themselves out as advisers for Mr Fawkes-Underwood's Lloyd's affairs saying they had "sufficient expert knowledge" of Lloyd's of London to be able to give him proper and adequate advice according to the claim.



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## TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 364

## ACROSS

- 1 The sport of kings (6)
- 4 Unnatural gap (6)
- 8 (Person's) large size (4)
- 9 Recent arrival (8)
- 10 Clerical junior (6,3)
- 13 Coincidence; parasitic worm (5)
- 15 Divide equally (5)
- 16 Water lily: Yoga position (5)
- 18 Overcome with fear, reverence (9)
- 21 Heaven (8)
- 22 Placid (4)
- 23 Of the teeth (6)
- 24 Cure (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Decorative strip of material (6)
- 2 Reluctance (4,4)
- 3 Category (of art) (5)
- 5 Wanderlust (5,4)
- 6 Domesticated (4)
- 7 Conflict (6)
- 11 Priam's daughter, her prophecies never believed (9)
- 12 Indian warrior; fearless (5)
- 14 Go gently up and down (8)
- 16 Thpoke like thid (6)
- 17 (Clothing) not covering enough (6)
- 19 Take oath (5)
- 20 Smile showing teeth (4)

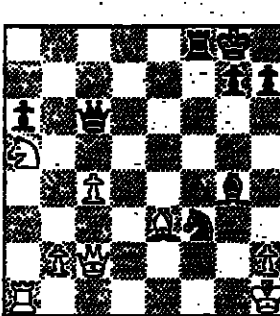
## SOLUTION TO NO 363

- ACROSS: 6 Recognizance 7 Iberia 8 Age-old 9 Once 10 Tidemark 12 Ladybird 16 Lose 18 Scarab 20 Summon 21 Businesslike
- DOWN: 1 Scarcely 2 Aghast 3 Lizard 4 Vane 5 Ocular 6 Robin 11 Milkmaid 13 Accrue 14 Inbred 15 Disuse 17 Shore 19 Ruin

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Evans - Staunton, London 1845. Black to play concluded with a neat tactical sequence, despite the threat against his queen by the white knight. Can you work it out?



Solution, page 32  
Raymond Keene, page 4

## WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

## TELTAG

- a. A clothing label
- b. A children's game
- c. A German train ticket

## WRENLET

- a. A young wren
- b. A middle-aged person
- c. A thin wristband

## TEMBO

- a. A musical instrument
- b. A palm wine
- c. A South African tribe

## DIDDY

- a. An animal's test
- b. An oval mould
- c. A rubber doll

Answers on page 32

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